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PC, Amstrad CPC

No 9 April 1991
A Database Publication



PARENTS & TEACHERS!
Turn to Page 6 for ways of developing
the National Curriculum content
of Let's Compute!

PUBLIC APOLOGY

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GOTO 46

**NIM'S
CHALLENGE**
Can you beat your
computer?

GOTO 7

Make money by
star gazing!

GOTO 23

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contests —
just for you

GOTO 15 and 39

Make your
own reaction
tester

GOTO 20

Rom & Ram
with fun for
ALL computer
owners

GOTO 11

SHOOT 'EM UP!

A super two-
player game

GOTO 33

Safe
Scientist

GOTO 24

Program
Doctor

GOTO 17

Find if
YOU have
won a prize

GOTO 43

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REGULARS

Rom's Round Up
Create an adventure
Build a Database
The Games Gang
Logo Lowdown
Hi-Scores

GOTO 8
GOTO 18
GOTO 29
GOTO 30
GOTO 35
GOTO 43

Great projects

I thought I would write to tell fellow boffins about the an idea I had. It's for the pedometer in last month's Pete's Project.

On my TV the first line is always off the top of the screen. My idea is to change the program to put in a title and move the first line down a bit.

Here are the extra lines I put in the program:

```
11 PRINT:PRINT
12 PRINT "BY SOMEONE COOL"
13 PRINT:PRINT
```

I use PRINT:PRINT to make gaps so the text does not look as if it is all on one line.

Pete's Projects are great. They are always something to do with my science lessons.

— Alexander Shuttleworth (12),
Honiton, Devon

Notice

If you have any tips for other readers, send them in. And if you have any questions about your computer or software just ask us. We'll try to answer them on the Noticeboard.



Let us know what you want to see in future issues. And if we use your letter or ideas we'll send you a *Let's Compute!* baseball hat! Send your letters to:

***Let's Compute!* Europa House,
Adlington Park, Macclesfield SK10 4NP**

Remember to tell us your age.

Congratulations

I must congratulate you on *Let's Compute!* At last a computing magazine for children at a realistic price.

I am a primary school teacher and therefore appreciate the work and careful thought that has gone into creating a good balance between fun and the educational aspects of computing. I am responsible for co-ordinating computing and find your magazine a stimulating resource of information and ideas.

So keep on with your cartoon strips of Rom and Ram, Logo Lowdown and The Final Front-Ear.

I could go on...

— Matthew Basford,
Tunbridge Wells

A computing Badge for Cubs

My son Timothy (9) has recently been given a BBC computer. Having used it initially for games he is now becoming interested in typing in programs.

The new edition of the Cub Scout Handbook has introduced a computer badge, which he is keen to work for. One of the things he has to do is write and save a short program.

A variety of choices is given but he would like to write one either to calculate the day of the week on which someone is born, or one to print out multiplication tables. Please help! There must be lots of Cubs (or their mums) who would appreciate this.

— Mrs N Castell, Doultling, Somerset



We know that Cubs – as well as Brownies, Scouts and Guides – are all keen to use computers. Lots of things we do are useful for them.

Why not try out some *Let's Compute!* fund raising ideas at Cub Fairs? And some of Peter's Projects are ideal for their investigations.

Next month we're doing a direction tester. It's ideal for Cubs who are learning about bearings.

But back to the Computer badge. The two programs you mention are very different in difficulty.

The tables one is fairly easy and a good one to try first. Just following the exploits of Rom and Ram for the first six issues of *Let's Compute!* gives enough information to write that one.

If you missed any, a few back copies are available. You can get details from Database Direct – 051-357 1275.

A day of the week program would only use the same instructions. But a lot more thought would have to be put into how they go together. It's certainly not a program for beginners.

The main thing is to keep practising. Type in the short programs from *Let's Compute!* See how they work and change them to see what happens.

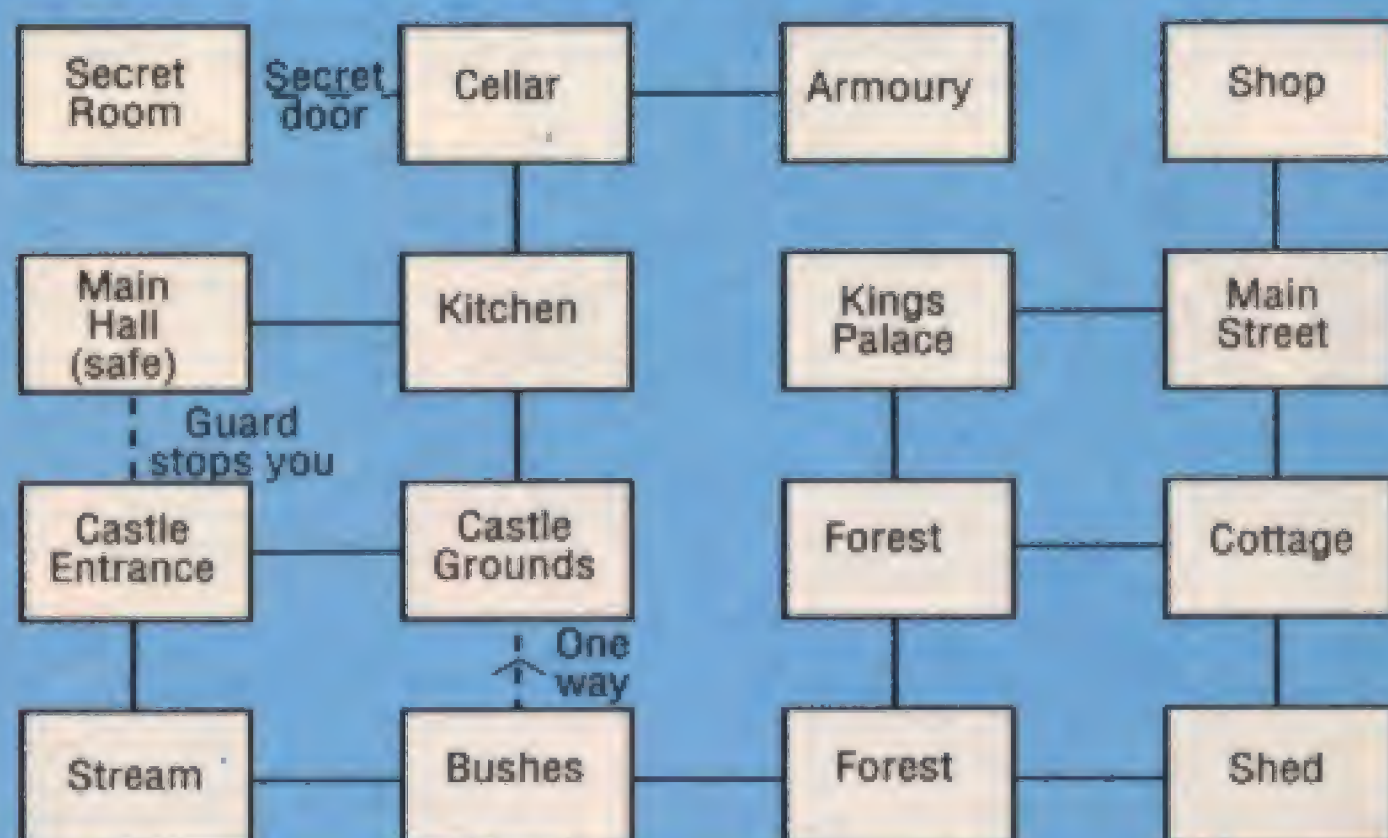
board

Have YOU found that crown yet?

If you still haven't solved The Golden Crown from February's *Let's Compute!* here's what you've been waiting for. It's a full map of the Kingdom. So now you've no excuse for not finding the crown!

Hints and tips

The Golden Crown Adventure Map



What does it mean?

I am not going to start my letter by telling you how great your mag is. (By the way, your mag is great). But could you tell me what Line 80 does in the Car Race Game (Let's Make Money).

I've looked in my manual and couldn't find anything. I'm at the end of my tether. I hate not knowing what it means.

My computer is a C64. Could you please tell me what it does?

— Ian Cross (12),
East Molesey, Surrey

Most computers have an easy way of printing at a certain place on the screen. For example, if you want to print a * five lines down and 12 columns across the screen of a BBC Micro the instruction is:

```
PRINT TAB(12,5);"*"
```

On an Amiga it's just:

```
LOCATE 5,12:PRINT"*"
```

But the C64 doesn't have a simple command like that. Not to worry, our clever programmer has invented a way.

To print * in that position on your C64 type this in:

```
POKE 211,5:POKE 214,12:SYS 58732:P  
RINT"*"
```

You'll find instructions like this in most *Let's Compute!* programs.

Where's Pacman?

In the February issue of *Let's Compute!* you said that there would be a super Pacman game in the March issue. Could you please tell me what happened to it?

— Philip Humphreys (9), Stourbridge

Sorry, at the last minute someone in the office came up with a great idea to make it even better. But we couldn't make the change in time for the March issue.

So, you'll find the new, even better game in the May issue.

Want a problem page?

I think *Let's Compute!* is great. The programs are brill and Rom and Ram are a great laugh. The competitions are wicked.

But there is one thing that is missing. A problem page where people could write in for help.

— Daniel Dilley (13), Chester

Loads of people send letters asking us for help. We already answer as many as we can fit on the Noticeboard or in the Games Gang.

What do other readers think? Should we have a page specially to answer problems? Let us know what YOU think.

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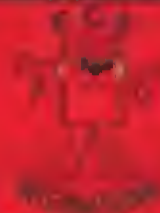
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PARENTS & TEACHERS

Computing should be fun! The aim of *Let's Compute!* is to make sure that youngsters get as much pleasure as they can from their computers - while they learn at the same time.

Programming is part of the National Curriculum, and the simple games and other programs in *Let's Compute!* are an ideal starting point for learning what computing is all about.

Once the programs are typed in they can easily be modified by the youngsters themselves. They should be encouraged to add colour and sound, change the graphics, add a high score table and adapt the game in many other ways so that it reflects their own ideas and their own personality.

Investigation is another important element of the National Curriculum. Most of our pages are designed with this in mind and point children in the right direction to discover things for themselves.

Below we explain what some of the articles are about and give ideas for further investigations that children should be encouraged to do for themselves.

Adventures .. Page 19

Nothing is more satisfying than writing your own big program and seeing others enjoy using it. The Create an Adventure series - which started in last month's *Let's Compute!* - shows children the easy way to write a complete adventure.

Apart from the fun and programming aspects of this article, it offers educational openings in several subjects. For example, by changing the map to a real place it can be used in Geography. Altering the words to a foreign language can make this program a great teaching aid for languages.

Logo Lowdown .. Page 35

Many teachers prefer the Logo language to Basic. And our Logo Lowdown turtles aim to make it fun.

Children should try the programs given and see what happens. Then they should try to change them to do something slightly different. The graphics of Logo show the effect of the change as soon as the program is run.

It's easy to learn enough Logo to draw some interesting shapes. And by combining our series with a little trial and error children will soon be creating amazing displays for themselves.

NIM .. Page 7

Nim is a game of strategy. Once the child has the game running encourage him or her to try to discover the winning method.

As it stands the program is very short. There are lots of modifications a child could attempt. Here are a couple of ideas:

- Print at the top of the screen the total number of games won by the player and the computer.
- Add graphics to show the sticks in the pile.

Rom and Ram .. Page 11

Rom is trying to learn about computers and Ram is teaching him. In following their exploits children learn along with Rom.

This month Rom's nephew Rum pays the crazy pair a visit. They show him how to type in a computer program and run it. Children can join him as he learns. In past issues of *Let's Compute!* Rom and Ram have been teaching BBC Basic. But from now on everything they do will work on all home computers.

Program Doctor.. Page 17

Each month Doc deals with some of the more common mistakes that people make - either in the program structure itself or in the ideas behind what a program does.

This month it's a teacher's first visit to the Doc, who starts looking at a few common faults found in educational software.

Children can type in the short listing first, try it, then add the additional lines and see what difference they make.

While Doc has improved the teacher's program there's still a lot more that can be done. He'll be continuing next month.

In the meantime children can try to further improve the program themselves. They can also be encouraged to take a look at some commercial educational software and offer constructive criticism as to what's wrong with it.

Pete's Project .. Page 20

In this series of articles computing and practical skills come together. This month the project is to make a paper reaction tester. A short computer program is used to discover where to mark the paper.

Another program checks reaction times. Using the two types of tester there are lots of investigations a child can carry out. For example:

- If someone tries both types, are the results the same?
- Are children faster than adults?
- Draw a graph of the reaction times of a whole class.

Let's Make Money .. Page 23

Schools and other organisations have always tried to raise extra cash at events like the Annual Fair. In this special *Let's Compute!* series we offer some ideas showing how computers can be used to help.

This month we present a short program that prints a random number of stars on the screen. They disappear and someone has to guess how many stars there were. The idea may be simple, but it's fun and can produce some useful income.

There are many ways children can enhance the program themselves. They can make it a more exciting money-making attraction by adding colour, sound, more messages and so on.

Safe Scientist .. Page 24

The Safe Scientist lets children use their computer to simulate experiments which in real life are too difficult, dangerous or expensive.

This month the aim is to investigate braking distances. The program given is a game that lets the player try to stop at exactly the same point each time.

Parents and teachers should ask questions like: Does it take exactly twice as far to stop when you're doing 60 mph than it does if you're doing 30?

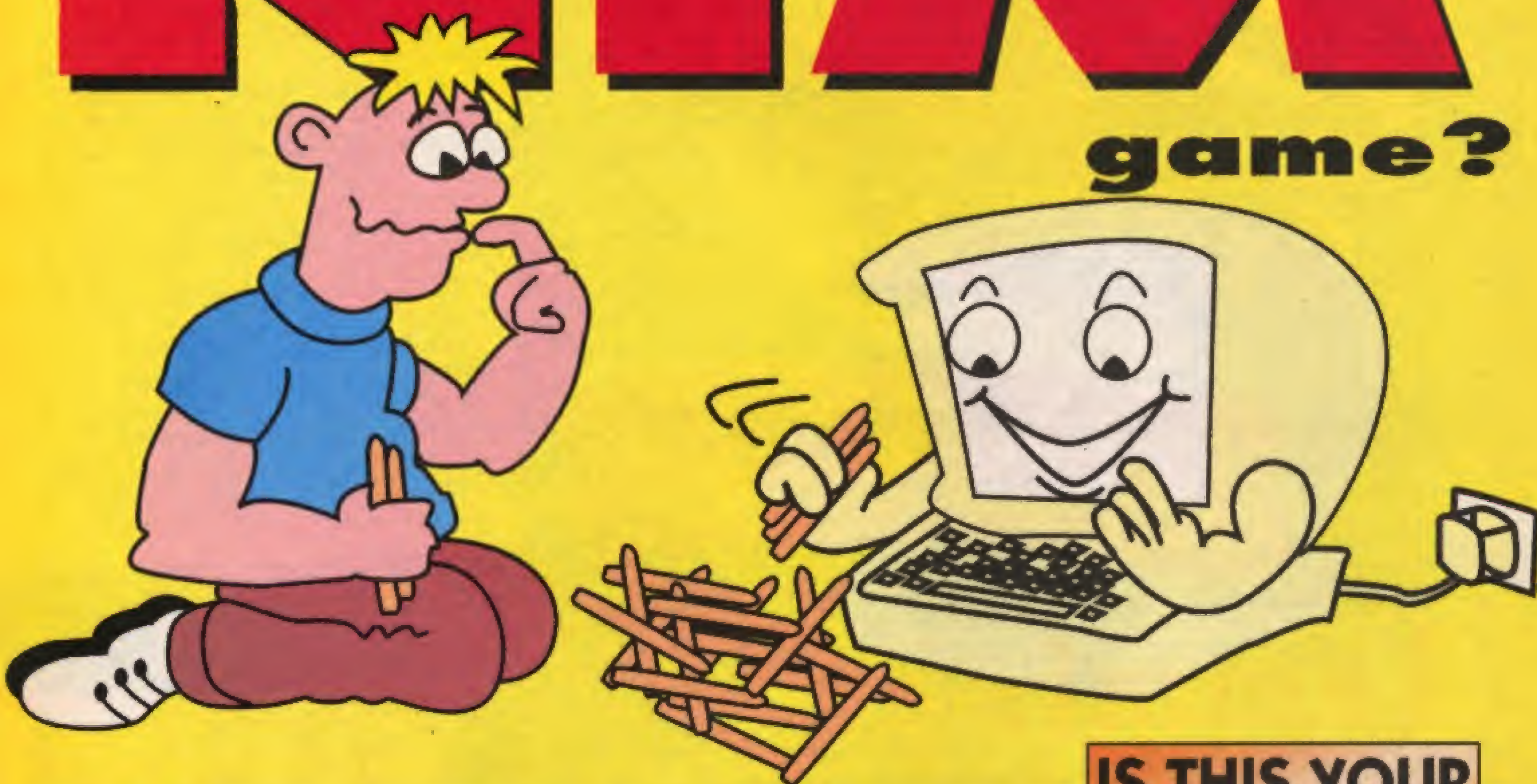
As with other investigations, it's a good idea to encourage graphing the results.

SHOOT 'EM .. Page 33

Children love to see their own work - or even just their name - in print. And any *Let's Compute!* reader has that chance. This game was written by David Johnston, an 11 year old reader. If your child can write a program you think others would like to see make sure he or she sends it to us. For children only just starting to program there are still lots of opportunities for them to get their name into *Let's Compute!* Encourage them to write to the Noticeboard, Games Gang or High Score Challenge.

Can you beat your computer at the

NIM game?



Nim is an ancient two-player game - and one of the first ever to be played against a computer. Type in the short program below and **YOUR** computer becomes an ace Nim player.

The rules are simple: First you need a pile of small sticks. It doesn't matter how many. Any number from 10 to 1,000 is OK.

The two players then take it in turn to pick up sticks. Up to half the pile can be taken each turn.

The loser is the one who picks up the last stick. So, to win, you must force your opponent to take it.

Now let's try the same thing on your computer, using our program. You start with between 100 and 1,000 sticks. You will find your computer is an expert: It will always win if it goes first.

To give you a sporting chance, it lets you have the first move 8 times out of 10. Can you work out the way to win every time you start?

Once you've sussed it out you should win every time you start it's your turn to start.

```

10 CLS
20 N=RND(901)+99
30 PRINT "There are ";N;" in the pile
"
40 IF N>900 THEN GOTO 90
50 PRINT:PRINT "How many will you tak
e (upto half)";:INPUT M
60 IF M>N/2 OR M<1 THEN PRINT "That is
more than half":GOTO 50
70 LET N=N-M
80 PRINT:PRINT "You have left ";N
90 LET X=1
100 LET X=X*2
110 IF X<=N THEN GOTO 100
120 LET X=X/2-1
130 IF 2*X<N THEN LET X=N-1
140 PRINT:PRINT "I take ";N-X;" leavin
g ";X
150 LET N=X
160 IF N>1 THEN GOTO 50
170 IF N=1 THEN PRINT:PRINT "I win!!":
GOTO 190
180 PRINT:PRINT "I lose"
190 PRINT:INPUT "Play again (Y/N)?";AS
191 IF AS="Y" OR AS="y" THEN GOTO 10
192 STOP
    
```

IS THIS YOUR COMPUTER?

Electron/BBC/Archimedes

The program works as shown.

**Amiga (Amiga Basic)/CPC/
PC (GW-Basic)/Amstrad/
AtariST(Stos)/Spectrum**

Change these lines:

```
20 LET N=INT(RND*901)+100
```

Commodore 64/128

Use capital letters.

Change these lines:

```
10 PRINT CHR$(147)
20 LET N=INT(RND(0)*901)+100
```

**This
program
works on
all home
micros**



The *Let's Compute!* expert takes a break from Basic and looks at the top games

Mig-29

Here's a great new flight simulator for the Amiga, Atari ST or PC. Mig-29 Fulcrum is based on the famous Russian aircraft.

As the game is a simulation the controls are the same as in the real thing. And it flies just like a real plane.

You are given a great view of Red Square in Moscow before you enter the briefing room and chose your missions. The object is to complete them all.

Before you do anything try the training mission. This lets you practice with just a few targets to shoot at.

For Amiga owners with 1Mb of memory there is an added bonus – a bigger screen which improves the game. And you have more colours which makes the game look better.

Atari ST and half-meg Amiga owners have a smaller display. If you

Lemmings

Psygnosis are famous for games with great graphics and sound. But they are sometimes not too good to play – Lemmings is a refreshing change.

The idea behind Lemmings is very simple. You have to guide a few hundred little lemmings out of their underground home. These caverns contain various traps – holes, high mounds of earth and all kinds of nasties. But never fear, your little lemmings are not completely helpless. They can build bridges, dig tunnels, block routes and blow up mounds of earth.

This game is fiendishly addictive – and very hard! If you get frustrated you can choose the NUKE option. If you have the heart to use this, you'll blow up all your lemmings.

The graphics and sound are very simple. But things can still be confusing with hundreds of lemmings invading your screen.

Lemmings costs £24.99 from Psygnosis. You can get it for the Atari ST, PC and Amiga. With loads of levels to play, this game will last for ages. It's a great game if you're bored with the usual beat-'em-ups and shoot-'em-ups.



Great stuff!

8



Hard



Super!

8

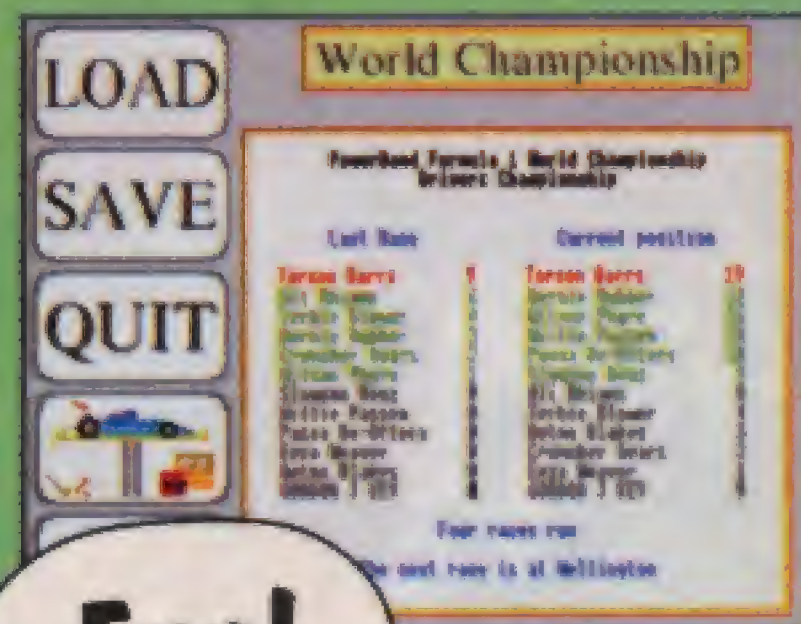
Drivin' 2

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test drive!**

All in all this new version
is great fun and an
improvement over the original.



Powerband comes from Fourth Dimension and costs £19.95. It is for the Archimedes only. It's a bit limited and I think E-type is better.



Fun!



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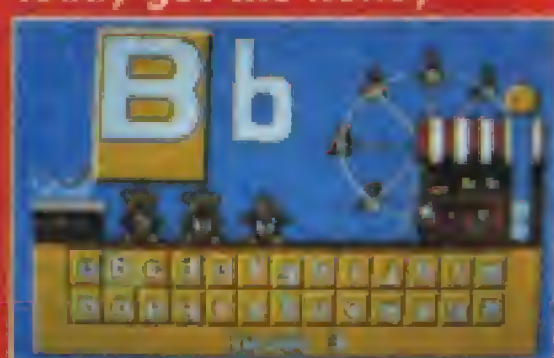
3



Under 5s



Count up to nine to help teddy get the honey



Pair the large letters at the alphabet fair



5 to 7s



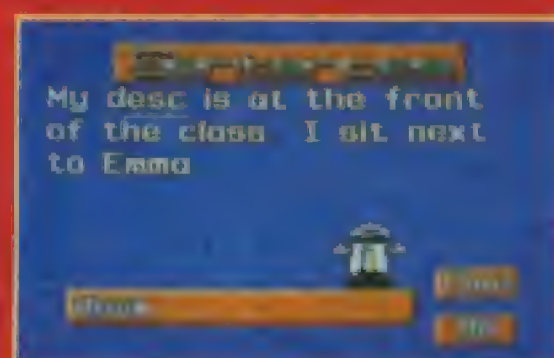
Tell the time and watch the clock come alive!



Guide the frog from log to log to solve the sums



Over 7s



Correct spelling, grammar and punctuation mistakes



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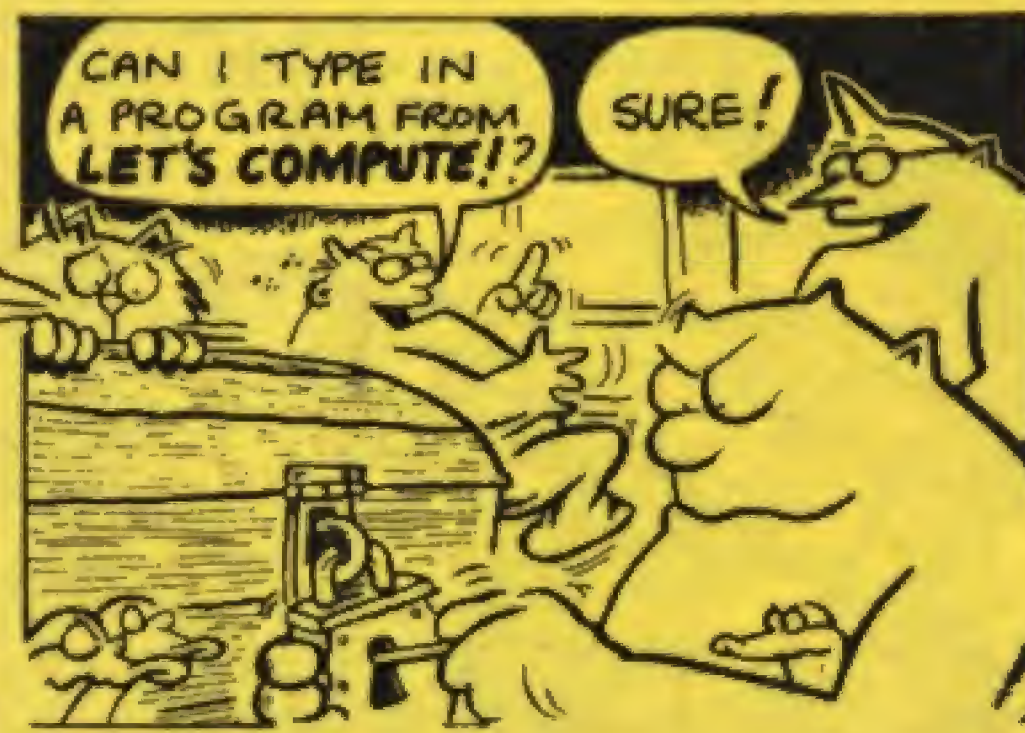
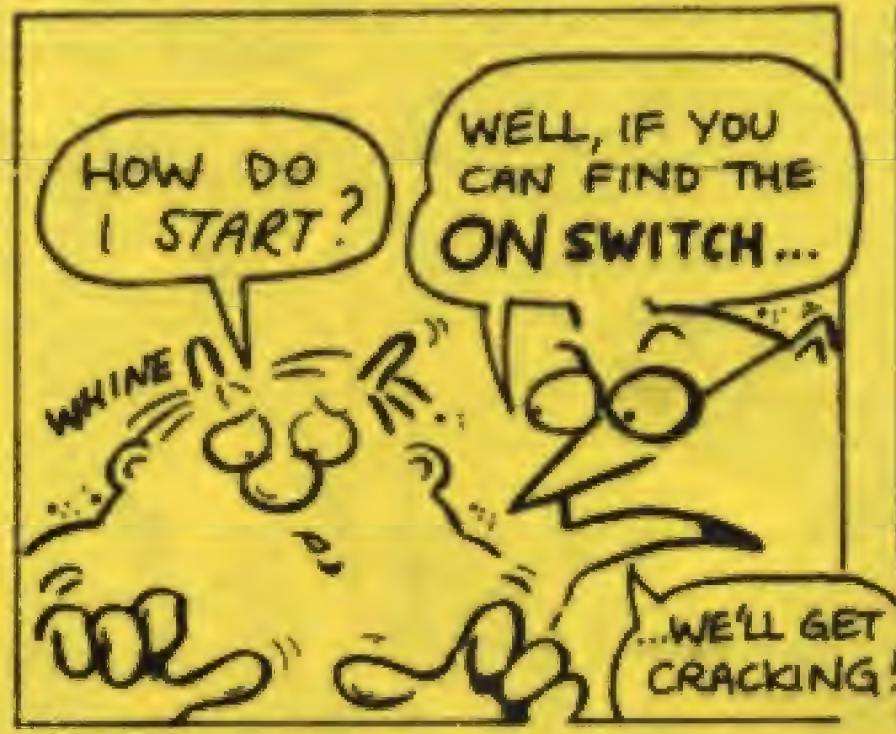
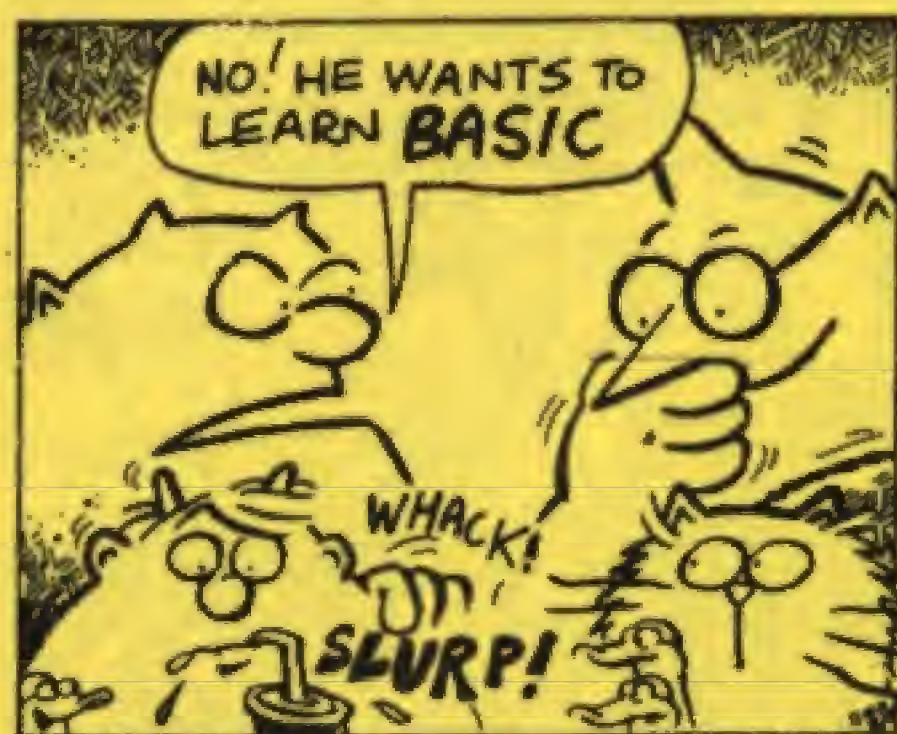
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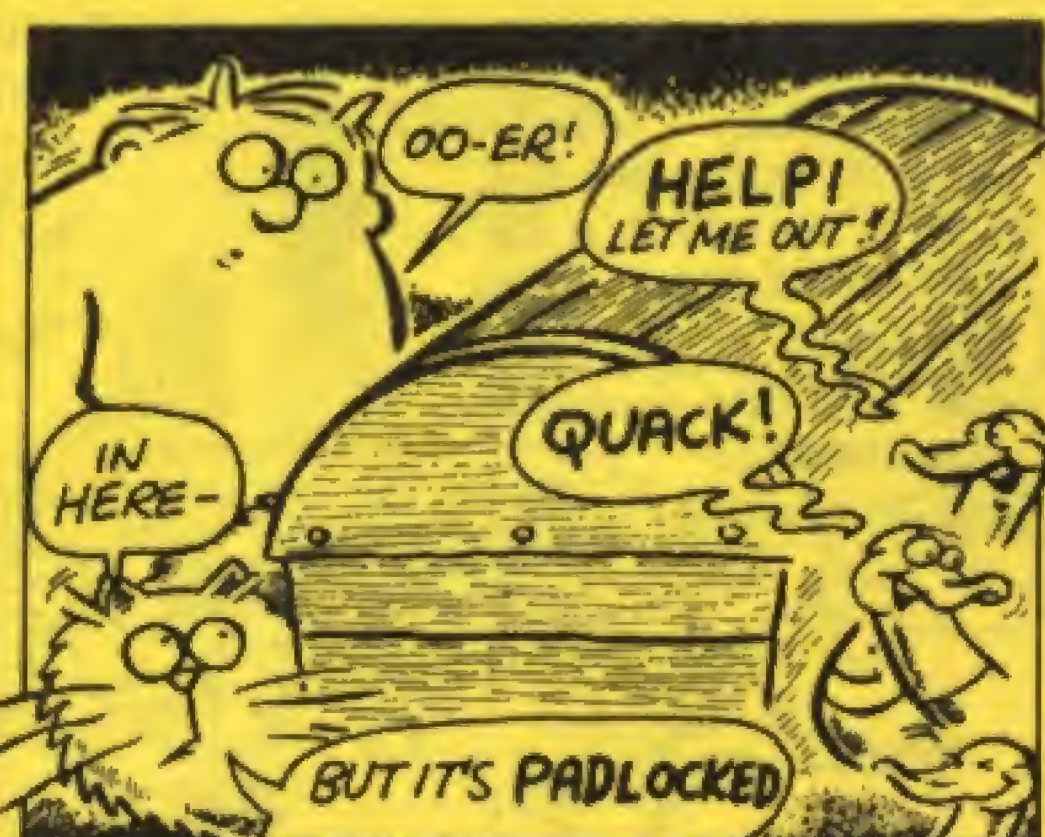
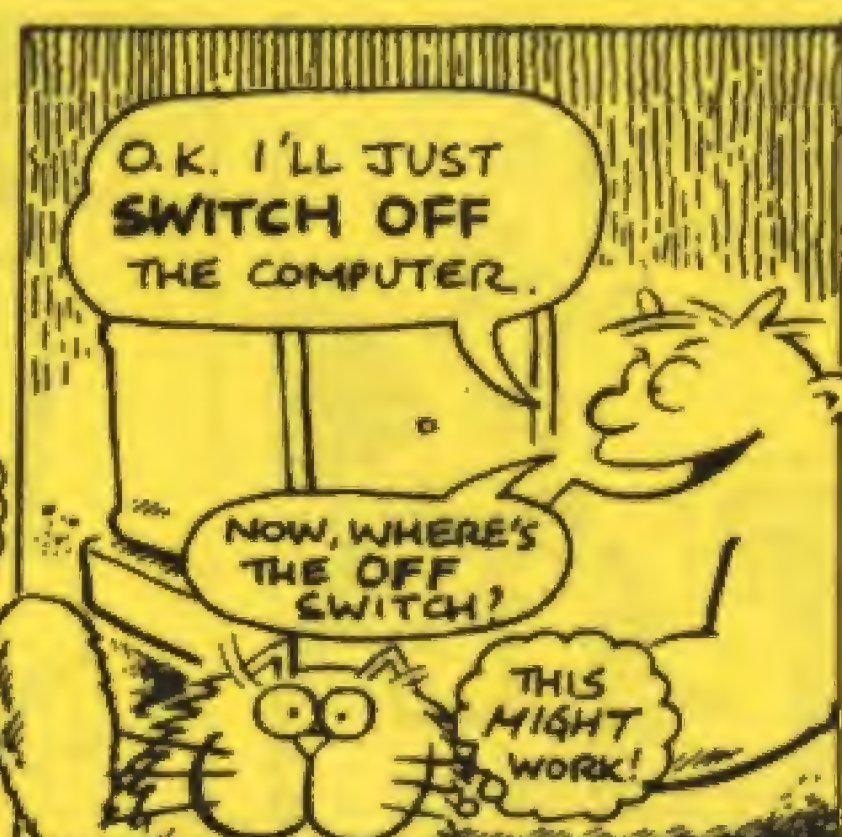
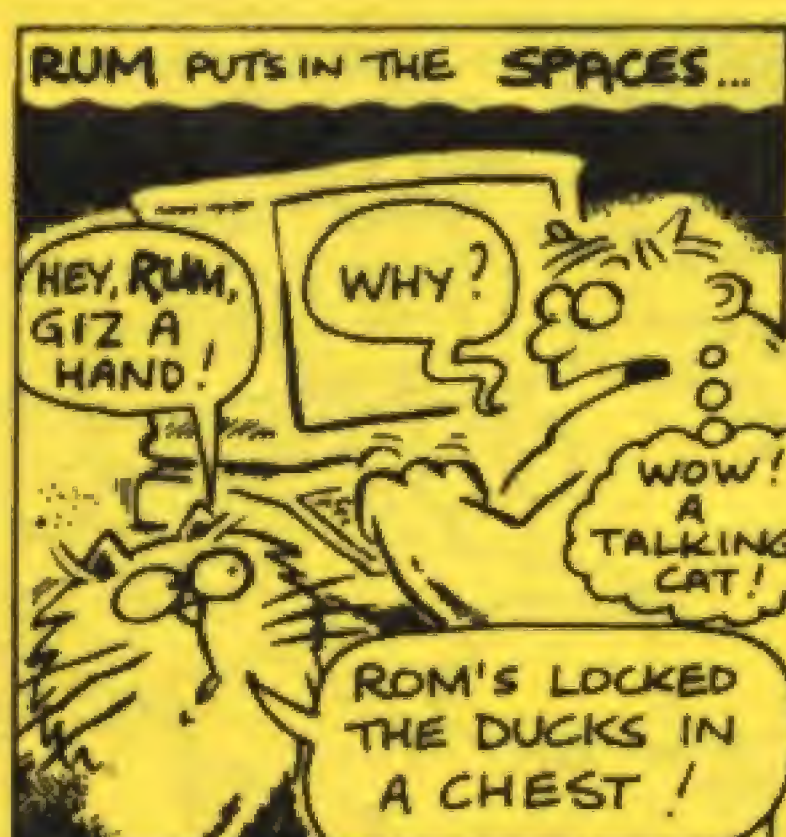
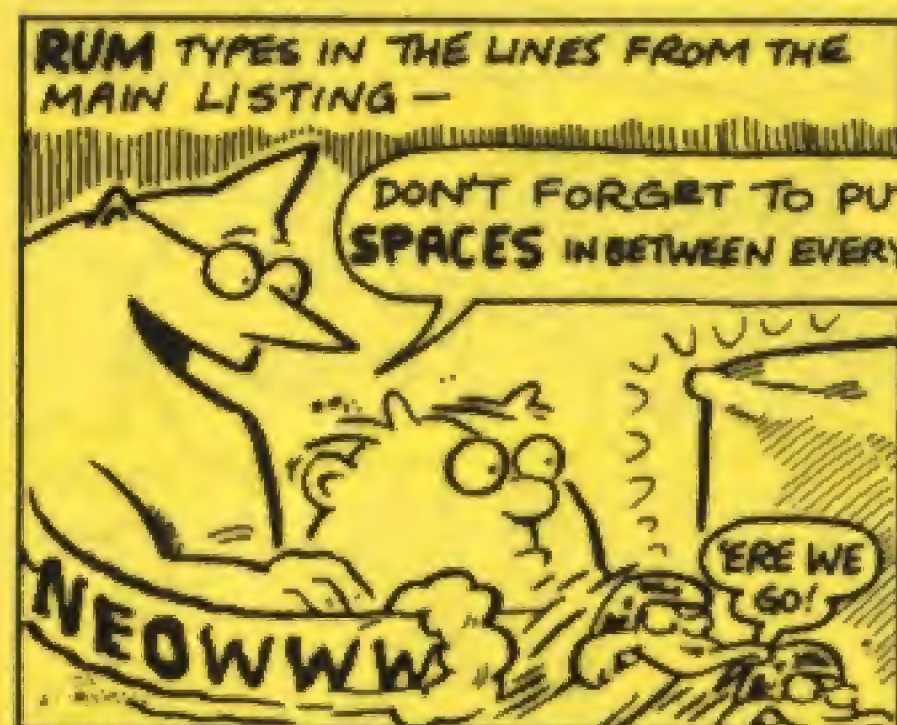
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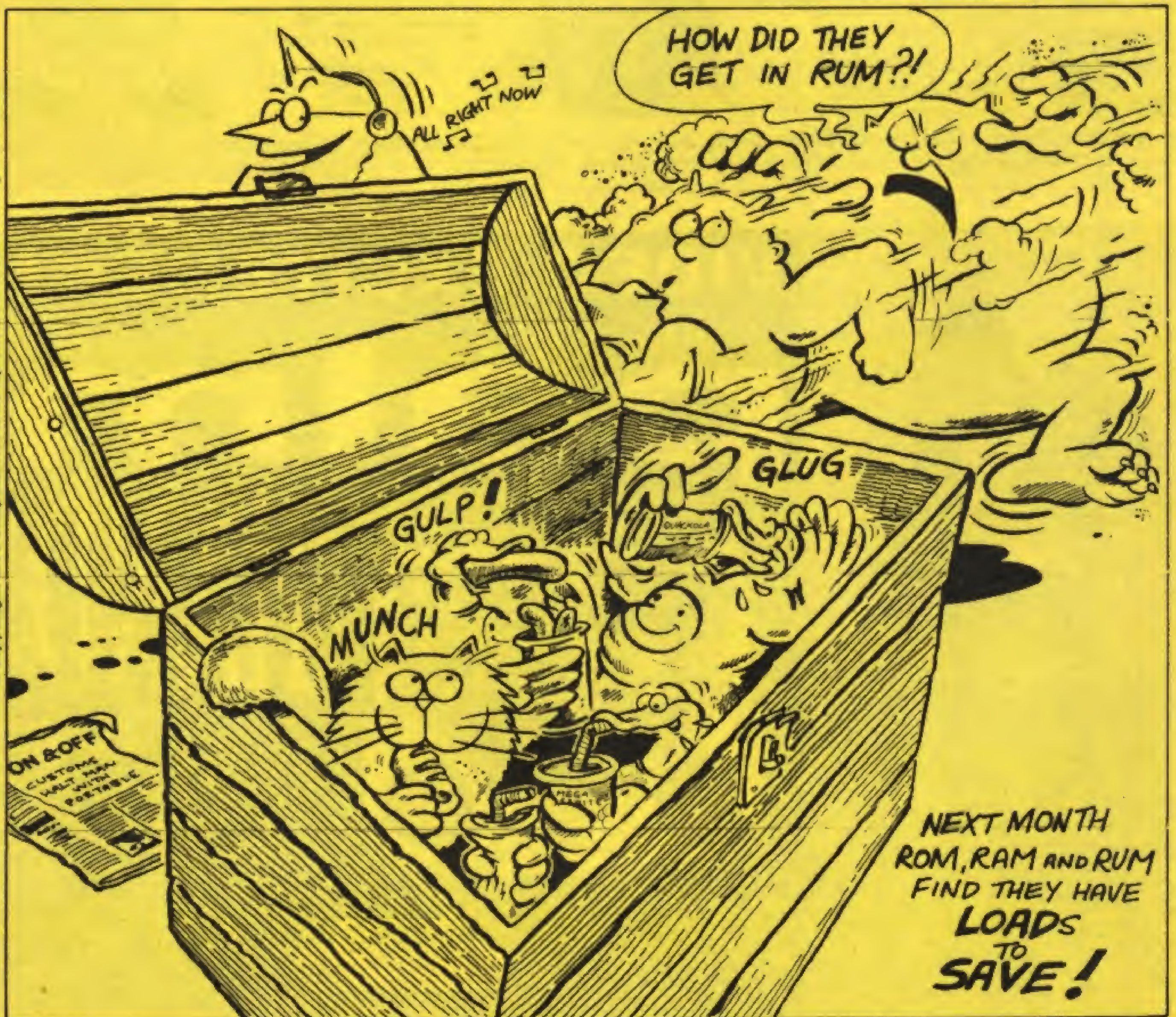
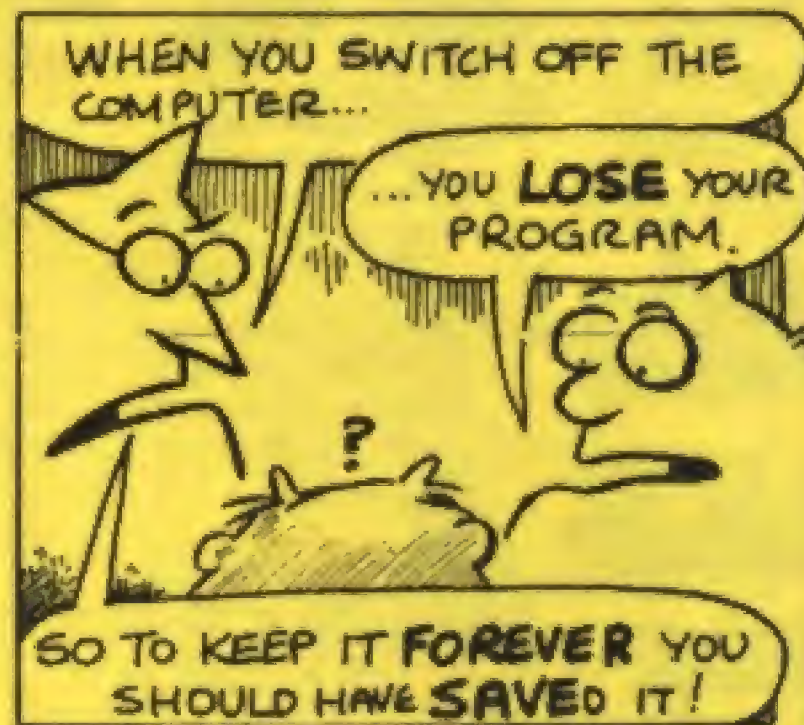
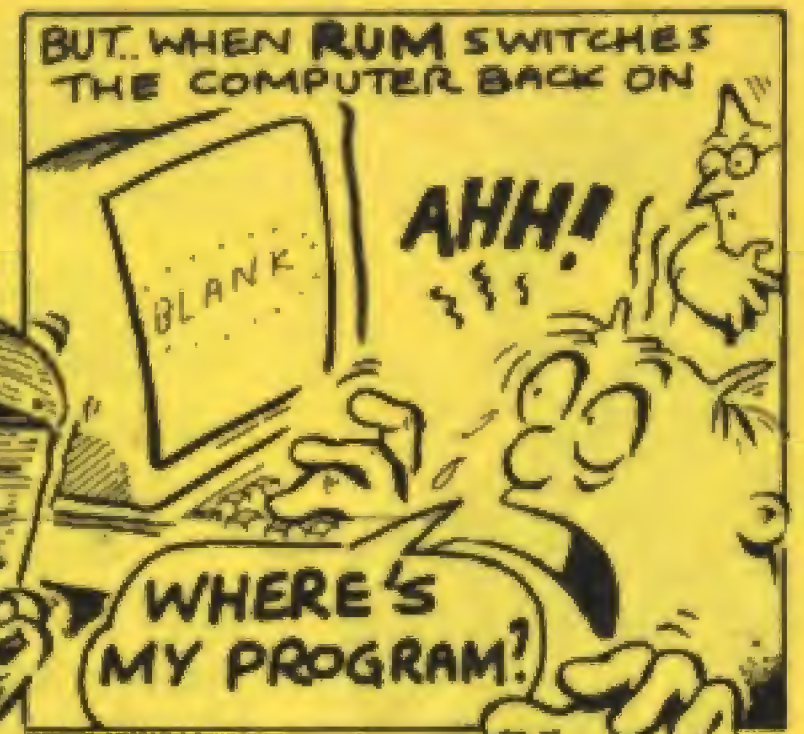
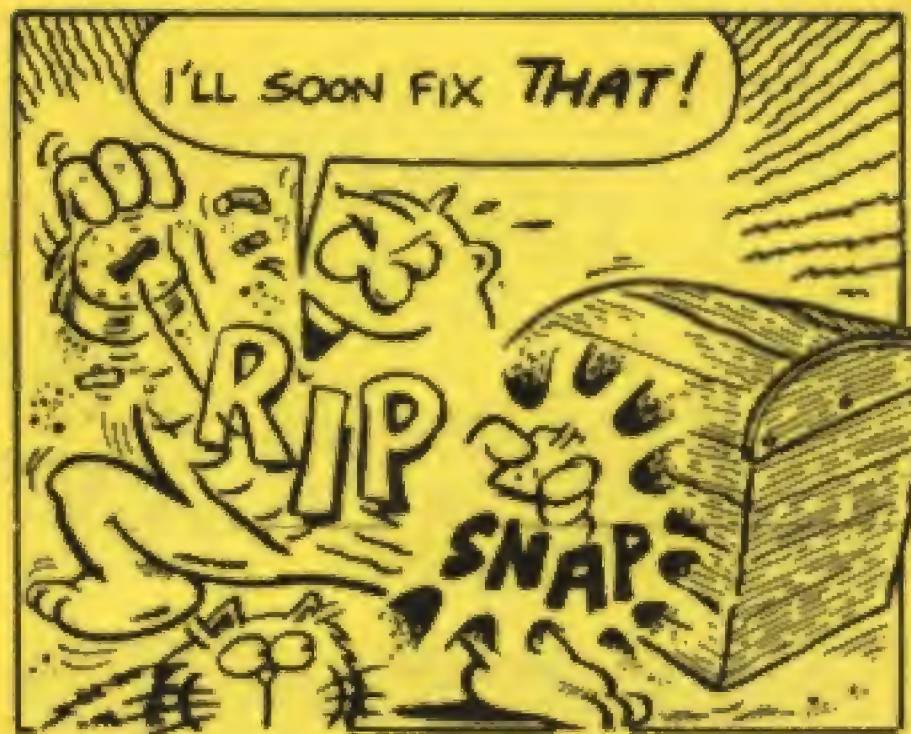
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contest



Dick Tracy is a fearless and famous detective.

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We've 25 of his games to be won. The winners will be able to help our hero as he fights Big Boy Caprice, Flattop, Pruneface and The Brow as they plan their next crime.

THE QUESTIONS

1 What type of hat is Dick Tracy famous for?

- a Beret
- b Top hat
- c Homburg

2 Which famous singer and actress appears in the film, Dick Tracy?

- a Madonna
- b Barbara Streisand
- c Maradona

3 Which of the following was an infamous Chicago gangster?

- a Lou Reid
- b Al Capone
- c Chubby Checker

4 Which of the following is NOT a criminal?

- a Pruneface
- b Tess Trueheart
- c Big Boy Caprice

What to do

Simply answer the four questions and complete the entry form below. All entries should arrive at *Let's Compute!* no later than April 26. The senders of the first 35 correct ones to be pulled from the sack will each receive a prize.

The prizes

There are 25 copies of the Dick Tracy computer game.

PLUS

10 runners-up prizes of mugs and T-shirts

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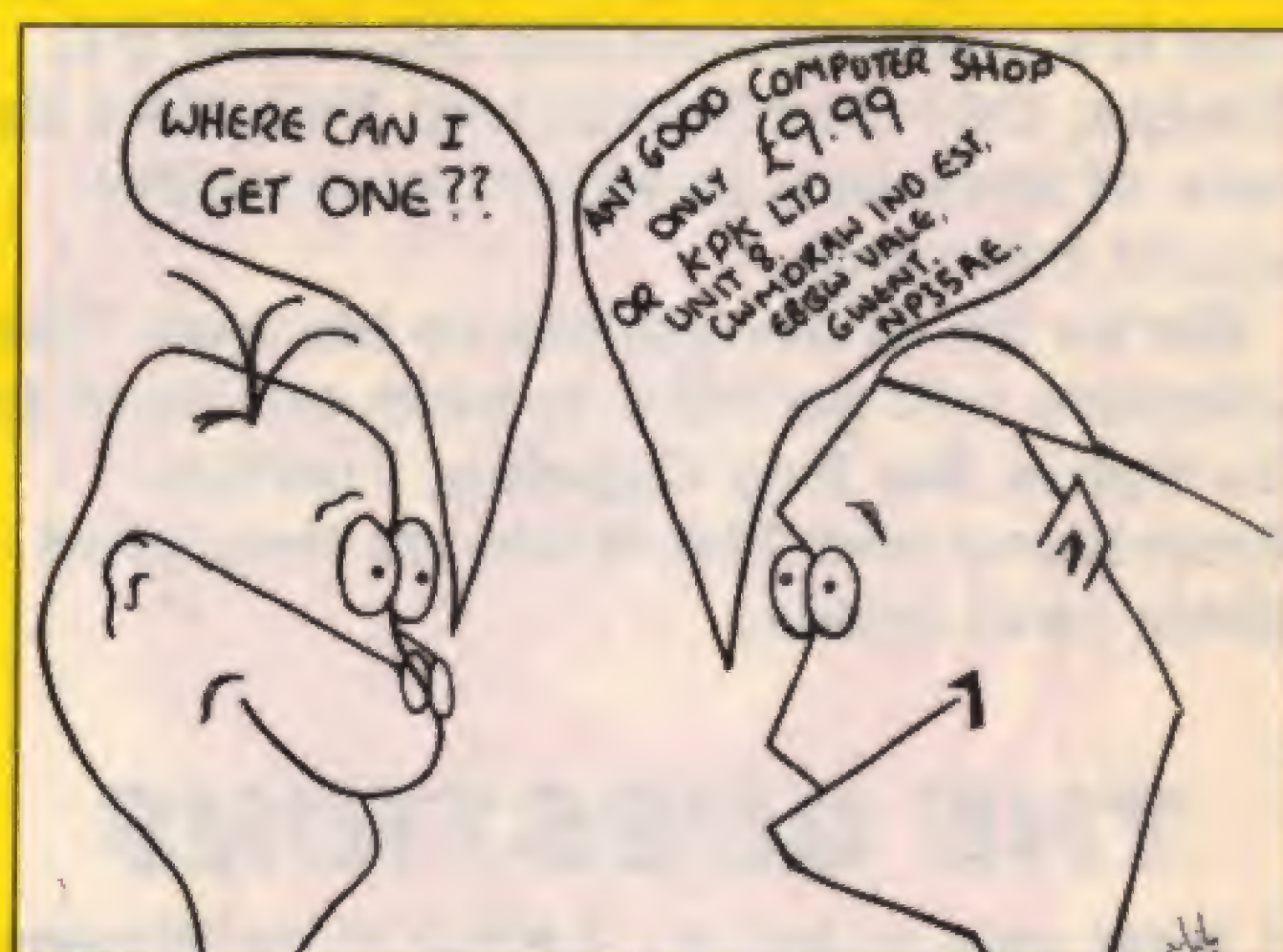
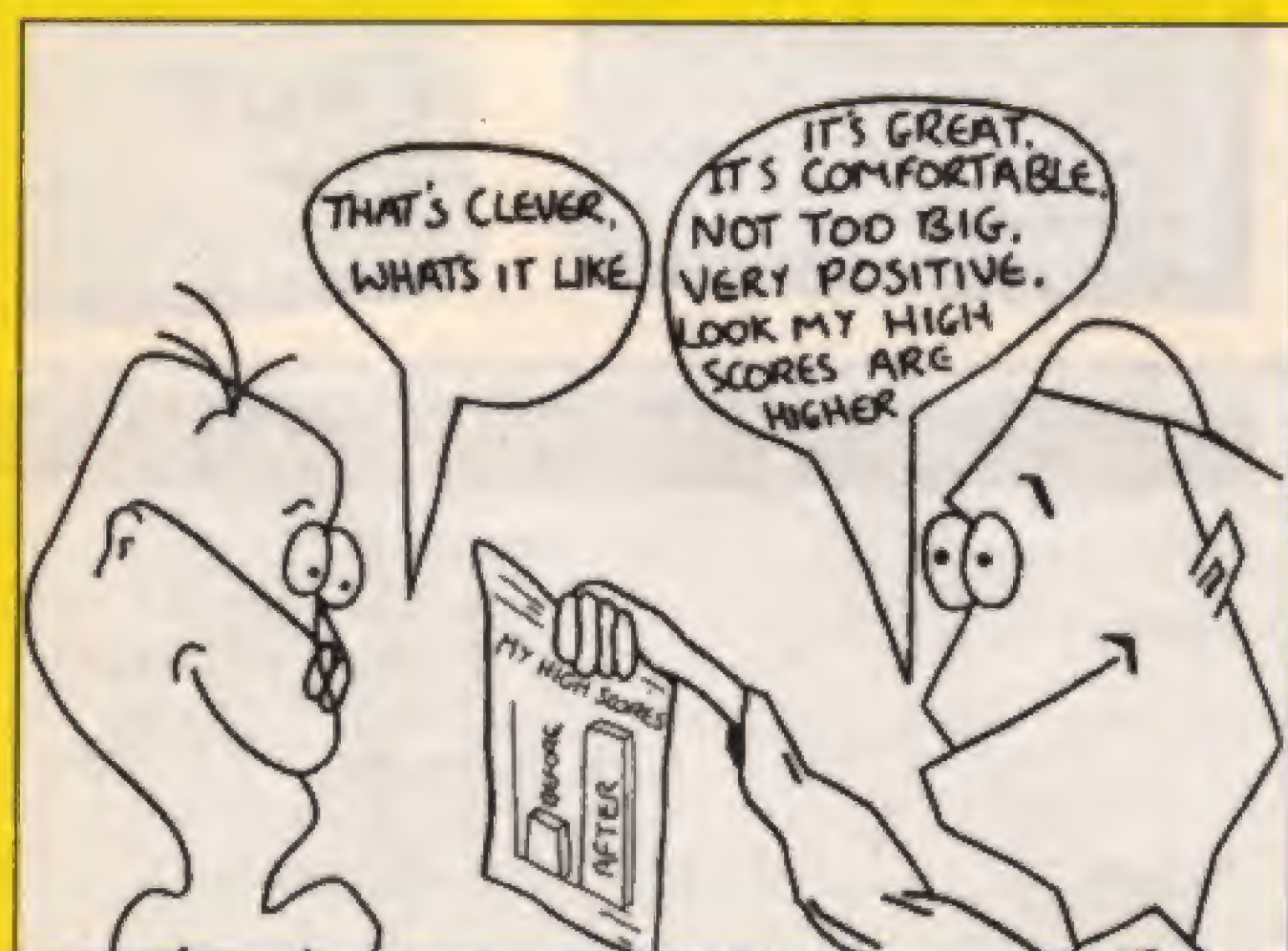
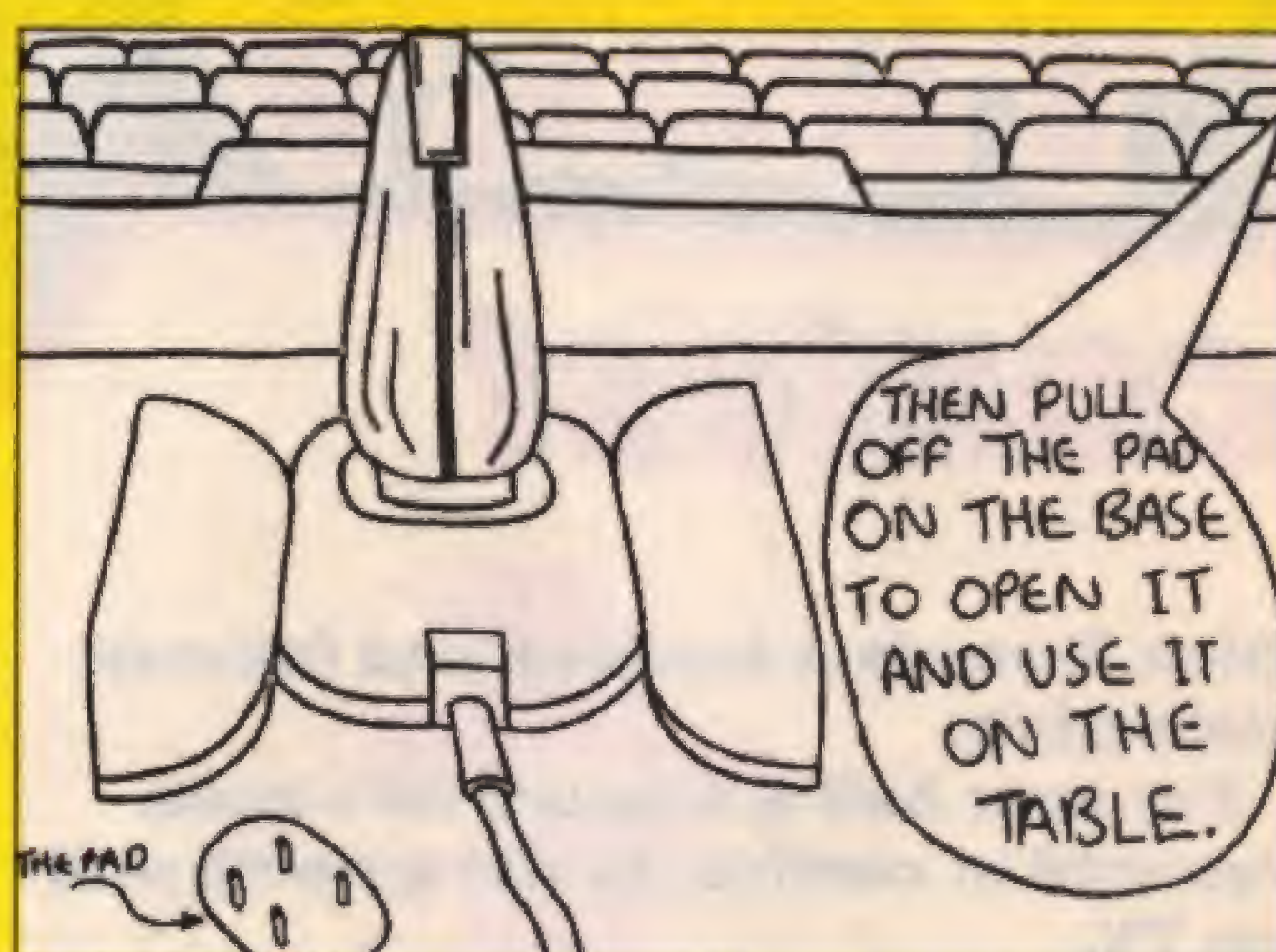
ANSWERS

1 3
2 4

My computer is a:

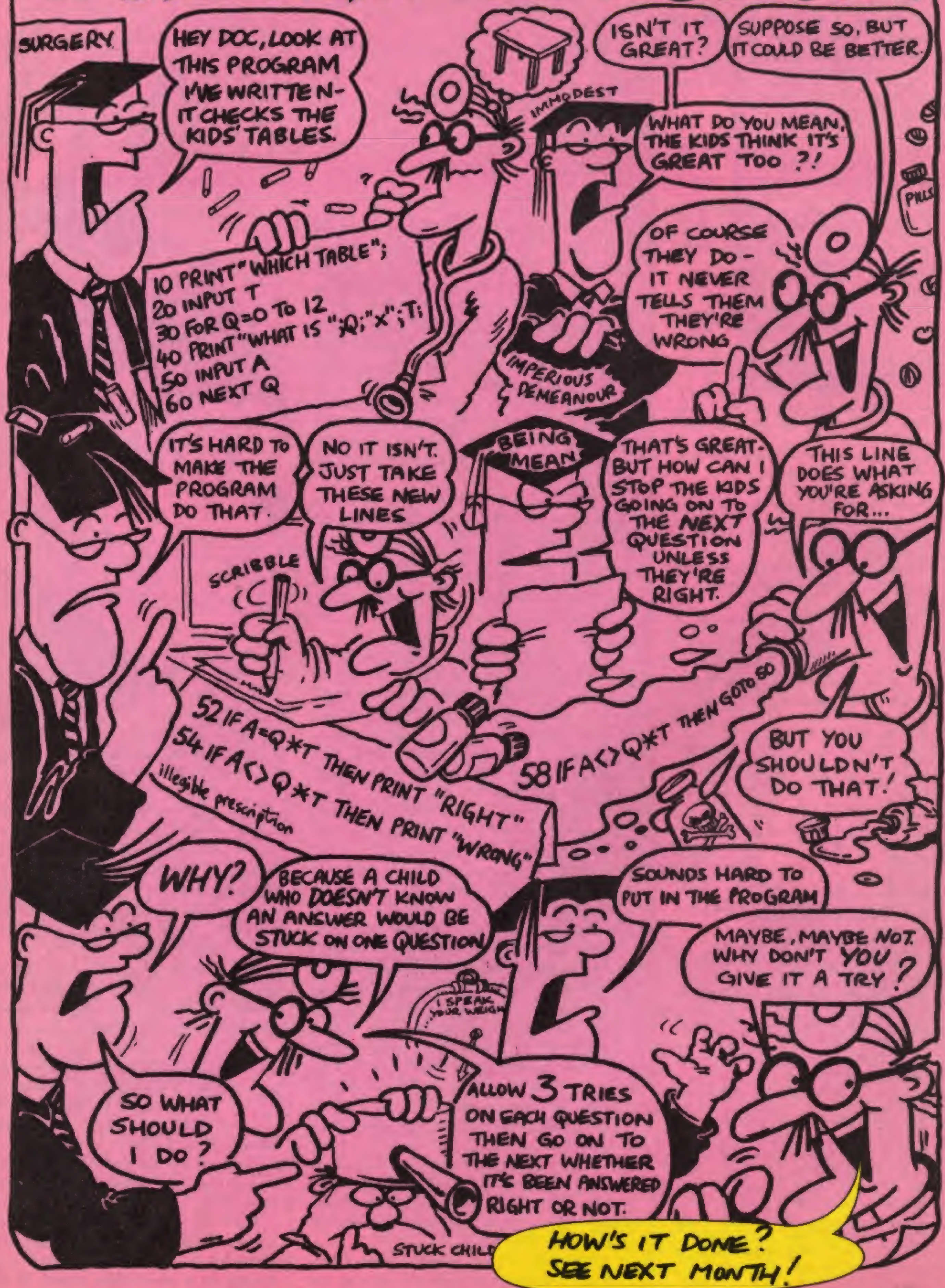
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PROGRAM DOCTOR



IS THIS YOUR COMPUTER?

This program works on a BBC, Archimedes, Electron, CPC, ST(Stos), Amiga and PC(GW-Basic). It will not work on a C64/128 or Spectrum.

```

35 IF W(1)>=1 AND W(1)<=10 GOSUB 2710
:GOTO20:REM FOR MORE THAN 10 ROOMS CHANG
E THE 10 IN THIS LINE
990 GOTO 20
1060 ROOM=1:Y$="start the adventure":ME
SS1$="":MESS2$="":MESS3$=""
2010 RESTORE 5520:REM GO TO THE START O
F THE ROOM LIST
2020 FOR C=1 TO ROOM:READ DIR$,DESC$,CO
DESS:NEXT C:REM GET INFO FOR THAT ROOM
2025 CLS:PRINT"You are ";DESC$;".":REM
PRINT WHERE YOU ARE
2030 D$="":IF INSTR(DIR$,"N")>0 D$=D$+"
North "
2031 IF INSTR(DIR$,"E")>0 D$=D$+"East "
2032 IF INSTR(DIR$,"S")>0 D$=D$+"South
"
2033 IF INSTR(DIR$,"W")>0 D$=D$+"West "
2034 IF INSTR(DIR$,"U")>0 D$=D$+"Up "
2035 IF INSTR(DIR$,"D")>0 D$=D$+"Down":
REM D$ CONTAINS THE DIRECTION YOU CAN GO
2190 IF D$>"" THEN PRINT:PRINT"You can
go ";D$
2191 PRINT"*****"
*****":REM 39 STARS
2192 PRINT:PRINT "You wanted to ";Y$:PR
INT:REM REMIND THE PLAYER WANT THEY WANT
ED TO DO
2193 PRINT MESS1$
2194 PRINT MESS2$
2195 PRINT MESS3$:PRINT:MESS1$="":MESS2
$="":MESS3$="":REM PRINT ANY MESSAGES AN
D CLEAR THEM
2700 REM TRY TO MOVE TO A NEW ROOM
2710 P=1:REM POINTER IN ROOM CODE
2720 IF VAL(MID$(CODESS,P,2))=W(1) THEN
ROOM=VAL(MID$(CODESS,P+2,2)):RETURN
2730 IF VAL(MID$(CODESS,P,2))=99 THEN M
ESS1$="You can't go that way!":RETURN
2740 P=P+4:GOTO2720
5510 REM ROOMS START HERE
5520 DATA S,in the control room,030399
5530 DATA E,in the weapons room,020399
5540 DATA NSEW,in a corridor,0101020403
05040299
5550 DATA W,in a store room,040399
5560 DATA NS,in a corridor,0103030799
5570 DATA ES,in the recreation room,020
7031099
5580 DATA NSEW,in a corridor,0105020803
11040699
5590 DATA ESW,in the air lock,020903120
40799
5600 DATA W,in the shuttle,040899
5610 DATA NES,in the sleeping quarters,
01060211031399
5620 DATA NSEW,in a corridor,0107021203
14041099
5630 DATA NSW,standing by a crate in th
e hold,01080315041199
5640 DATA NEW,crawling through an air du
ct,01100214042099
5650 DATA NSEW,in a corridor,0111021503
16041399
5660 DATA NW,in the hold,0112041499
5670 DATA N,in the engine room,011499
5680 DATA NEWS,crawling through an air d
uct,011802180319041999
5690 DATA NEWS,crawling through an air d
uct,011702130320041799
5700 DATA NEWS,crawling through an air d
uct,011702200320041799
5710 DATA NEWS,crawling through an air d
uct,011802130319041999
5900 DATA X,X,X

```

*Now your great
adventure really
starts to take
shape as you
design the maze*



Last month we showed you how to start writing your own Adventure Manager.

The program we gave you recognises words the player types in. It lets you put in any words you want your computer to understand.

The first six words we used were direction words. Now that your computer can recognise these it needs places to move to.

First you need to draw a map. Ours is for a spaceship. But you can draw your own for anywhere you want - your house, your school or your town for example.

Try ours first, then have a go with your own.



We'll call each place on the map a room. Even if it's really a cabin, a hold or a corridor. That way we can talk about, for instance, Room 8. You can even talk about your garden as being a room on your own map.

Once you've drawn your map you're ready to begin working on your computer.

Start by loading last month's program. You're going to add more lines to it.

Type 100 and press Return. This removes Line 100 - remember it was just there to let you know your program was working.



Now look at the map. This is what your computer needs to know. The instructions for each of the 20 rooms are in Lines 5510 to 5900. Add these to your program.

The panel on the right explains how these DATA lines are made up. Just follow the instructions there to make your own DATA lines.

Now add Line 1060. This tells the computer which room to

Mapp Ad

PART 2

Always draw your map first. Then work out the codes on paper. That way you will find it much easier to sort out any mistakes.

start in. It also gives it the message that needs to be printed at the start.



Lines 2010 and 2020 find the computer's description of the room from the DATA. Then Lines 2025 to 2195 display what's been read. There's also a bit that can send messages to the player. You will need these later.

Type these lines in and run the program. You'll be in the control room with this message showing: You can go South

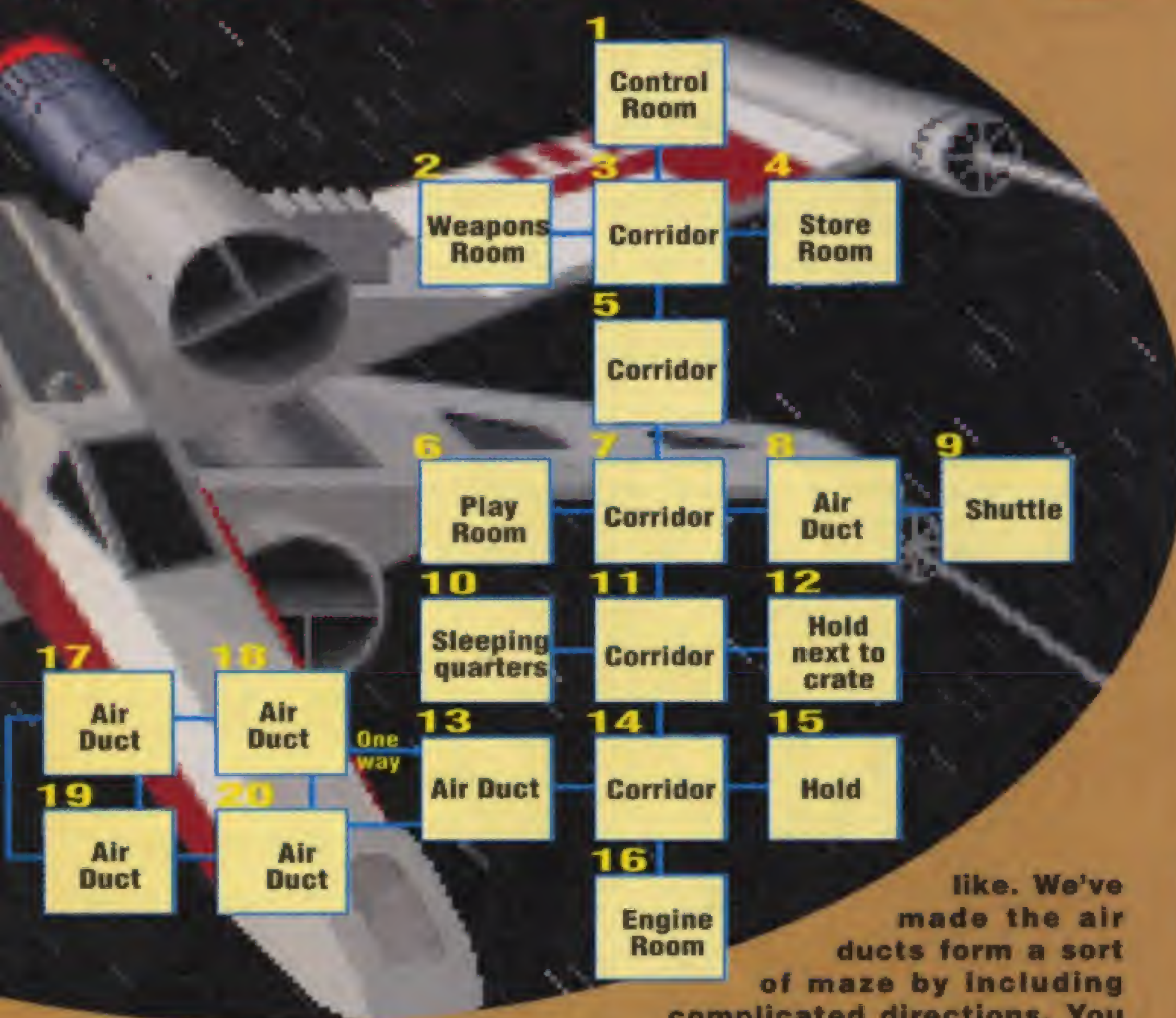


Now type in Lines 2700 to 2740. They check the first word typed in by the player to find which new room to move to.

If your computer doesn't know the word you won't be able to go that way.

Now we must make the computer use this routine. Line 35 checks to see if the first word found is a direction word. If it is

ing the road to venture!



It goes to the movement sub-routine.

Finally, replace the old line 990 with:

```
990 GOTO 20
```

This makes the whole program go in a complete loop so you can keep playing.

Now **SAVE** your complete program and try **RUN**ning it.



You will be able to move around the spaceship in the map. We haven't used any **UP** or **DOWN** to keep things simple. But they are in the program ready for you to use if you write your own version.

The connections between rooms can be as difficult as you

like. We've made the air ducts form a sort of maze by including complicated directions. You can make a few rooms seem like a lot by doing this sort of trick.

You can have one way paths like the one we've put between rooms 18 and 13.

You can have magic tunnels that join one end of your map to the other. You could make our spaceship into a circular space station by adding connections between rooms 1 and 16.

Now try using your own set of rooms. Start with something simple like your house or your school.

Then move on to making up your own adventure landscape.

Next month we'll look at how you can add things like space suits to your adventure.

What's in the DATA lines?

Each room needs three bits of data. As an example, look at Line 5590. This describes room number 8 – the Air duct. The program knows it is room 8 because it is the eighth room DATA line.

The first bit of data, ESW, shows the directions you can move in. The second bit, in the air lock, is the description of the room. Your computer will add *You are* to each description.

The next group of numbers tell the program which words send you where. Word 02 will move us to room 09, 03 to room 12 and 04 to room 07.

Each number must be two figures. So, for example, the number 2 must be written as 02 in the DATA.

The 99 at the end tells the program that's the end of the list.

TRY THIS!

You could make a maze seem to go on for ever by connecting a room to itself. Try changing the codes for room 19 to:

```
01190219031904051906191999
```

Also alter the directions to **NSEWUD** and see what happens when you enter that room.

ANSWER TO LAST MONTH'S CHALLENGE

There are many ways to make your computer understand capital or lower case letters. Here's a way that will work on all computers:

```
2201 LET YYS="":FOR ZZ=1 TO LEN(Y5)
2202 LET LLS=MIDS(Y5,ZZ,1):LET
LL=ASC(LLS)
2203 IF LL>91 THEN LET LLS=CHR(LL-32)
2204 LET YYS=YYS+LLS
2205 NEXT ZZ
2206 LET Y5=YYS
```




Q

U

I

C

K

You get two for the price of one with this month's project. There's a paper reaction tester that you can take anywhere - and a special computerised version. Our step-by-step instructions tell you how to make and use them both. Try them out and see how fast YOUR reflexes are.

There are lots of experiments you can do with your two testers.

First, try comparing the results of the paper and computer versions. See if they're similar.

You could check which of your friends has the fastest reaction. Is the quickest also the best at zapping aliens?

Draw a graph showing the reaction times of all your friends. Draw another of the speeds achieved by the same number of adults. Who are fastest? Children or adults? We'd love to see your graphs and other results. Send them to *Let's Compute!* and we'll pin some to the Noticeboard.

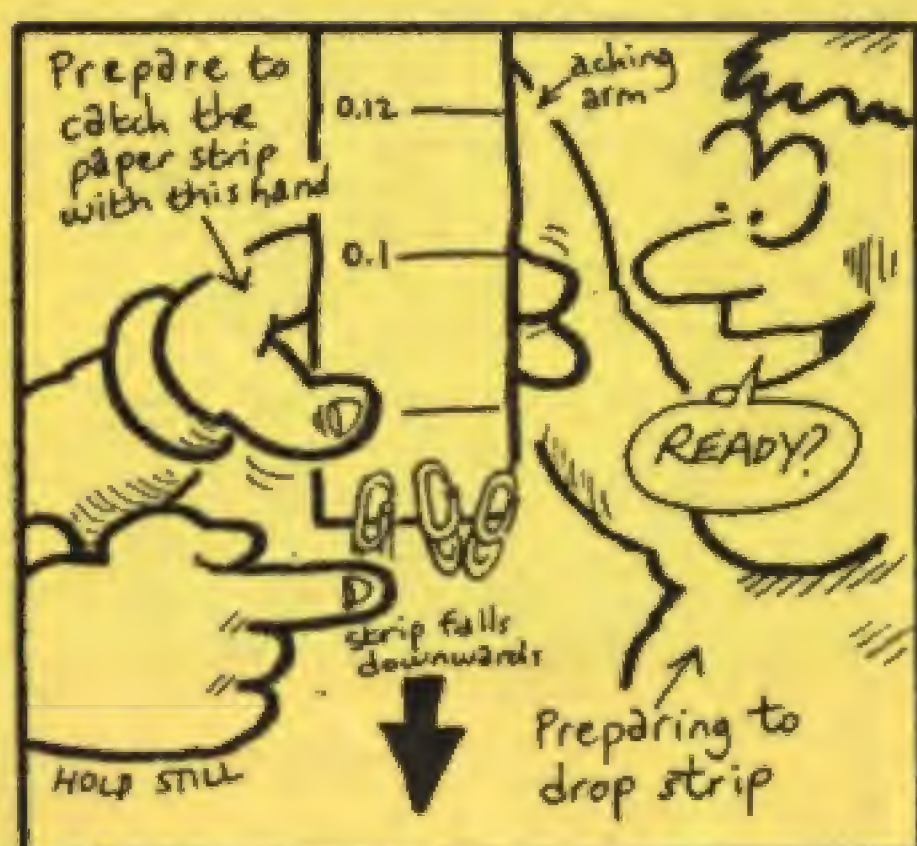
Are you the fastest kid on the block?

*Find out with the
Let's Compute!
reaction
tester*



on the draw!

REACTION TIMER



MAKING THE PAPER REACTION TIMER

Cut the two strips from the right hand edge of this page. Tape them together so the numbers are along one edge. The zero should be at one end and the 0.34 at the other.

Put three paper clips at the end where the zero is. Your reaction timer is now ready to use.

How did we work out how to mark the tester? Simple! We used our computer and this program:

```
10 PRINT " TIME    DISTANCE"
20 FOR T=0.1 TO 0.35 STEP 0.02
30 D=INT(4900*T*T+.5)/10
40 PRINT " ";T;" secs  ";D;" cm"
50 NEXT
```

It works on all computers. Try it.

When you RUN it you get figures like those shown on the right.

The right hand column tells you how far to measure from zero. The left hand one tells you the times you should write

TIME DISTANCE

| | |
|-----------|---------|
| 0.1 secs | 4.9 cm |
| 0.12 secs | 7.1 cm |
| 0.14 secs | 9.6 cm |
| 0.16 secs | 12.5 cm |
| 0.18 secs | 15.9 cm |
| 0.2 secs | 19.6 cm |
| 0.22 secs | 23.7 cm |
| 0.24 secs | 28.2 cm |
| 0.26 secs | 33.1 cm |
| 0.28 secs | 38.4 cm |
| 0.3 secs | 44.1 cm |
| 0.32 secs | 50.2 cm |
| 0.34 secs | 56.6 cm |

on your tester. If you want to make a longer tester just increase the number 0.35 in Line 20.

But don't make it too big! If you try increasing the time to 0.8 secs you'll find you need a piece of paper about 3 metres long!

USING YOUR COMPUTER

Type in and RUN the program below. You'll first be told to *Press the spacebar then press it again after 10 seconds*. Press it once. Use a watch to time 10 seconds then press it again.

Then watch your screen carefully!

Each time XXX appears press the spacebar – as quickly as you can. You'll be told how quick you were. Make a note of your best time and keep trying to do better.

```
10 PRINT "PETE'S PROJECT REACTION TEST ER"
20 PRINT:PRINT "PRESS THE SPACEBAR."
30 PRINT:PRINT "THEN PRESS IT AGAIN AFTER 10 SECONDS.":PRINT:LET T=0
40 GOSUB 120:LET T=T+0.1
50 GOSUB 120:LET S=T/10
60 PRINT:PRINT "PRESS SPACE EACH TIME YOU SEE XXX":PRINT
70 IF T>99 THEN LET T=T-100:GOTO 70
80 LET R=INT(T/10):LET Z=T-R*10
90 LET R=R*Z*S:FOR Z=1 TO R:NEXT
100 PRINT "XXX":PRINT:LET T=0:GOSUB 120
110 PRINT "REACTION TIME WAS ";INT(T/S*100+.5)/100;" SECS":PRINT:GOTO 70
120 LET AS=INKEY$(0)
130 IF AS<>" " THEN LET T=T+1:GOTO 120
140 RETURN
```

IS YOUR COMPUTER HERE?

Electron/BBC/Archimedes
The program works as shown.

Amiga (Amiga Basic), PC (GW-Basic), Amstrad CPC, Spectrum/Atari ST (Stos)

Change or add these lines:

```
120 IF INKEYS<>" " THEN GOTO 120
125 LET AS=INKEYS
```

Atari ST: Also change S to S# in Lines 50,90 and 110.

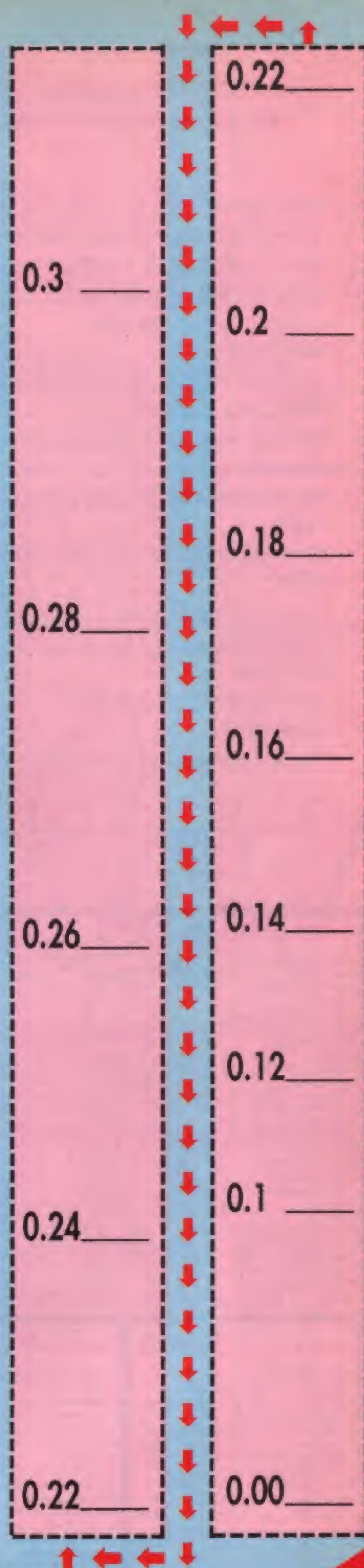
Commodore 64/128

Change this line:

```
120 GET AS
```

ANOTHER USE FOR THIS PROGRAM

Can you estimate, say, one minute without looking at your watch? When XXX appears on your screen don't press the spacebar as quickly as you can. Wait until you think a minute has passed and then press it.



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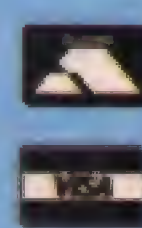
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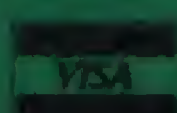
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| F19 Stealth Fighter | 29.99 | 29.99 | 22.99 | 22.99 |
| Fantasy World Dizzy | - | - | 4.99 | 4.99 |
| First Paint | - | - | 10.99 | - |
| Flippit & Magnose | - | - | 14.99 | 14.99 |
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|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
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| Perplexity * | 7.99 | 8.99 | Micro Maths (8-17) | 17.95 | 17.95 | 17.95 | 17.95 | 17.95 | 17.95 | 17.95 | 17.95 |
| Pipeline | 2.99 | - | Primary Maths (3-11) | 17.95 | 17.95 | - | - | 17.95 | 17.95 | 17.95 | 17.95 |
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| EDUCATION | IBM PC 5 1/4 | IBM PC 3 1/2 | ST Disc | AMIGA Disc |
|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|---------------|
| Answer Back Quiz Junior | 14.95 | 14.95 | 14.95 | 14.95 |
| Answer Back Quiz Senior | 14.95 | 14.95 | 14.95 | 14.95 |
| * Arithmetic (6-11) | 7.45 | 7.45 | 7.45 | 7.45 |
| * Spelling (6-11) | 7.45 | 7.45 | 7.45 | 7.45 |
| First Shapes (3-5) | 18.95 | 18.95 | 14.95 | 18.95 |
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| - under 6, 6-8 or over 8 | 13.95 | 13.95 | 13.95 | 13.95 |
| Fun School 3 - | - | - | - | - |
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| Maths Talk Fractions(8-12) | 18.95 | 18.95 | 14.95 | 18.95 |
| Rhyming Notebook (10+) | 18.95 | 18.95 | 14.95 | 18.95 |
| Smooth Talker (10+) | 18.95 | 18.95 | 14.95 | 18.95 |
| Spell-A-Saurus (6-11) | 18.95 | 18.95 | 14.95 | 18.95 |
| Lets Spell at Home | - | - | 14.95 | 14.95 |
| Lets Spell at the Shops | - | - | 14.95 | 14.95 |
| *Files for Ans. Back Quiz | | | | |

LET'S MAKE MONEY

Part 5

STAR GAZING

Here's an electronic game to help boost your funds

Lots of successful fund raising events are based on guessing. People are willing to part with money to have a go - whether it's estimating the number of sweets in a jar or guessing the weight of a cake.

This program lets you use your computer to play a guessing game. The idea is simple.

When you RUN the program lots of stars will appear on your computer screen. A few seconds later they disappear.

People pay you to guess how many there were. Type their estimate into your computer and you'll be told how near they were.

Press the spacebar and another load of stars will be displayed. Someone else can then have a go.

There will be a different number of stars each

time. That means the game doesn't end even if someone guesses the right number.

Exactly how you use the program is up to you. You could, for example, charge 10p a go and refund the money if the guess is 10 or less away from the right answer. Anyone guessing the exact number could win £1.

This short program is intended as a frame for you to build on. You can use it just as it is. But you'll find more people will want to look at your game if you add some extra bits.

There are a few ideas below for changes you could try. Use some of these and add a few of your own. Then take your computer and this program to make money at your next fund-raising event.

CHANGE THE PROGRAM TO SUIT YOUR NEEDS

Here are some ideas for ways you can alter the program:

- You can have more, or less, stars by changing the number 600 in Line 30.
- Change the number 10 in Line 40. If you make it smaller more stars will be shown.
- Use something different to a * in Line 50. If you know how to define characters you could, for instance, make a clown's face.
- Alter the number 5000 in Line 80. The smaller it is, the quicker the stars will be cleared from the screen.
- Put more messages in the program. These should be different depending how near the guess was. For example, try adding this line:

135 IF N>50 AND N<80 THEN PRINT "MILES AWAY: TRY HARDER!!"

```
10 LET C=0
20 CLS
30 FOR I=1 TO 600
40 LET R=RND(10)
50 IF R=1 THEN PRINT"*";:LET C=C+1
60 IF R<>1 THEN PRINT" ";
70 NEXT I
80 FOR I=1 TO 5000:NEXT I
90 CLS
100 PRINT:INPUT"HOW MANY STARS WERE THERE";N
110 LET N=ABS(C-N)
120 IF N=0 THEN PRINT"EXACTLY RIGHT!"
130 IF N<>0 THEN PRINT"THERE WERE ";C;
    ".":PRINT"YOU WERE ";N;" OUT"
140 PRINT"PRESS SPACE FOR ANOTHER GO"
150 REPEAT UNTIL GET=32
160 GOTO 10
```

- Put colour in the program
- Add sound. Maybe a higher note for each star drawn.

IS THIS YOUR COMPUTER?

Electron/BBC/Archimedes

The program works as shown.

Amiga (Amiga Basic), PC (GW-Basic), Amstrad CPC, ST (Stos), Spectrum

Change these lines:

```
40 LET R=INT(RND*10)+1
150 IF INKEY$<>" " THEN GOTO 150
```

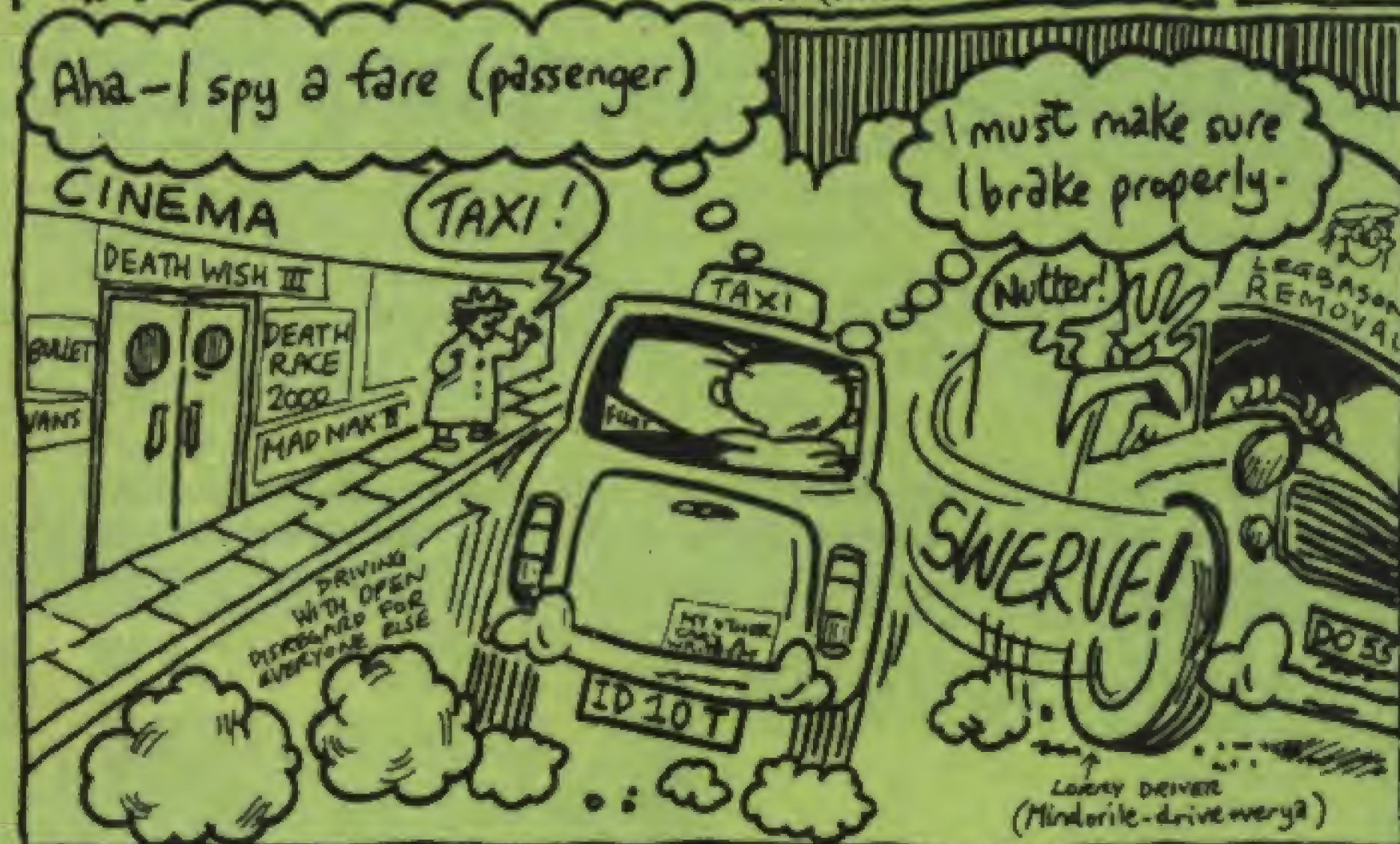
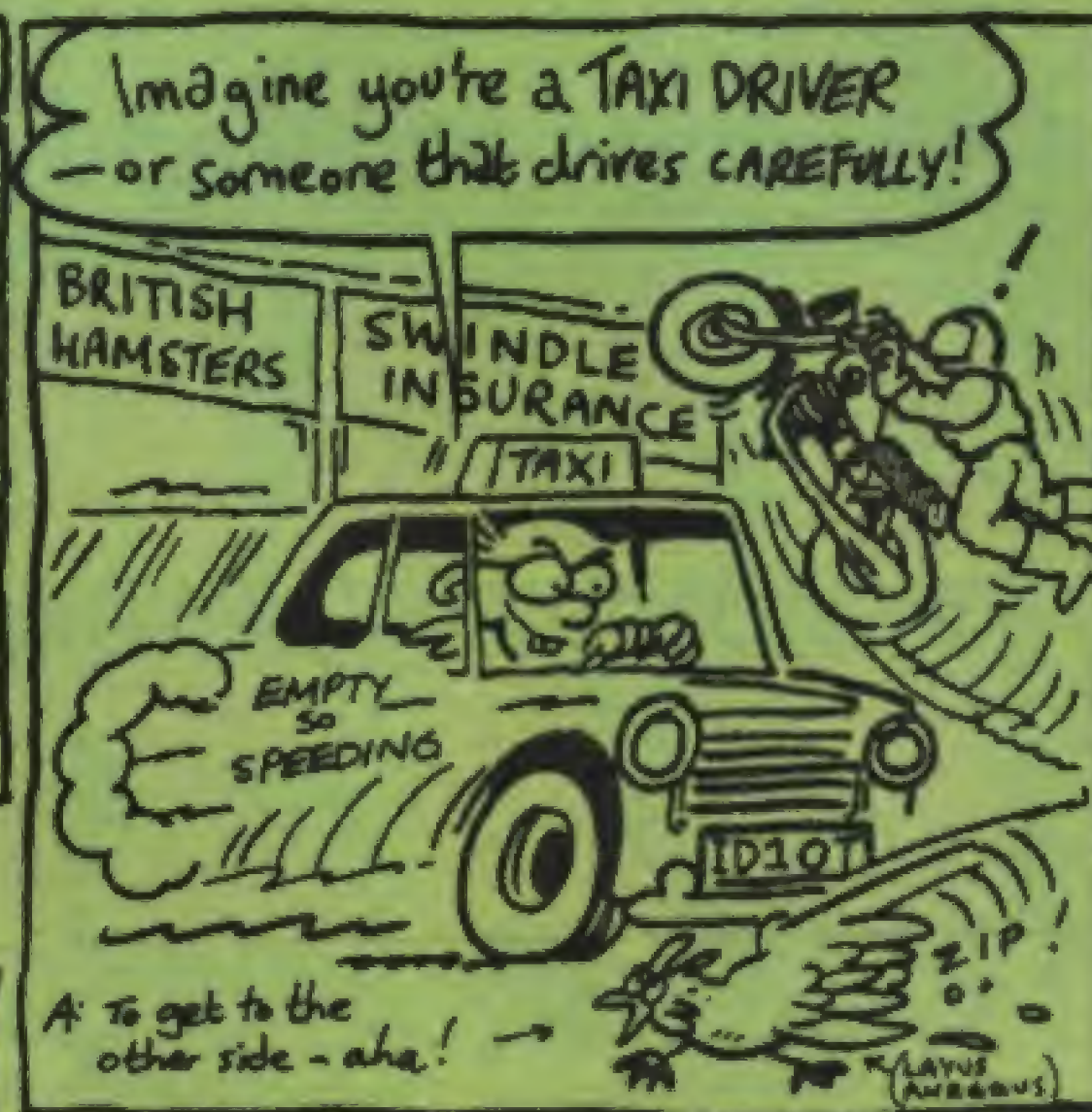
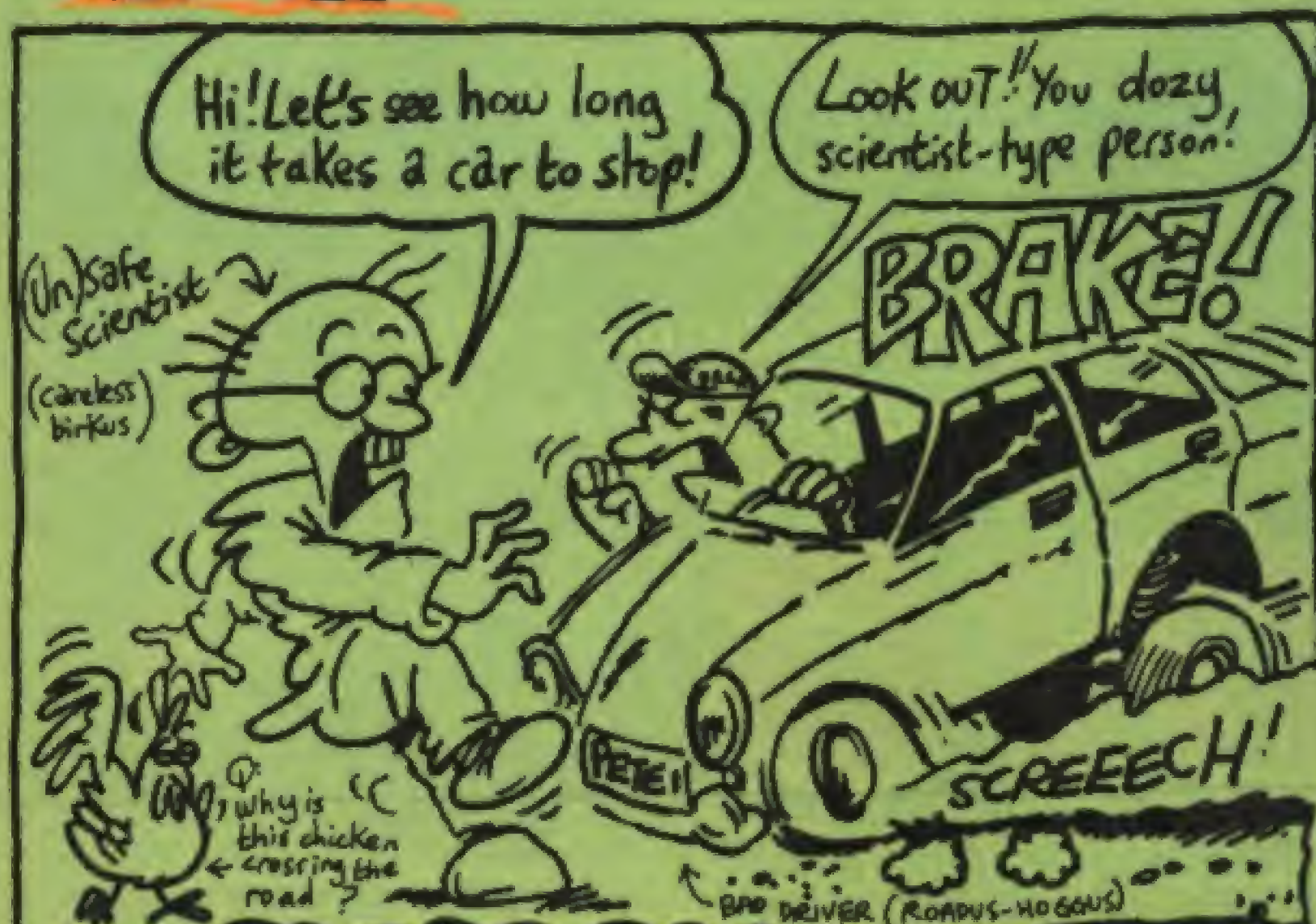
Commodore 64/128

Change these lines:

```
20 PRINT CHR$(147)
40 LET R=INT(RND(0)*10)+1
90 PRINT CHR$(147)
150 GET Z$:IF Z$<>" " THEN GOTO 150
```




The Safe



Scientist

STOP THAT CAR!

The Safe Scientist's latest program finds the right time to slam on the brakes



How long does it take to stop a car? It depends how fast it's going!

Let's look at braking distances.

Imagine you are a taxi driver. Ahead of you is a passenger who wants a lift. You must bring the car to a smooth stop right by your customer.

If you stop short the customer may go in another taxi. After all, who wants to ride in a poorly driven car?

It's even worse if you don't stop quickly enough. Your passenger could find himself getting a free ride in an ambulance! Type the program in and RUN it. Then see if you could stop in time.

The program is very simple to use. Just press the B key when you want to apply the brakes.

There is no need to hold the key down. Once it's been pressed the car will come to rest - eventually.

The stopping distances are based on

the highway code figures. They've been converted into a mathematical formula for your computer to use.

There are several investigations you could try. You can, for instance, work out the stopping distances you need and plot them on a graph against the speed. Also, find out if you need twice as much distance to stop if you travel twice as fast?

```
10 REM CAR SPEEDS
20 REM THE SAFE SCIENTIST
70 CLS
90 LET S=(1+RND(6))*10
100 LET D=S+(S*S)/20
120 LET X=29:LET Y=10:LET AS="0":GOSUB 300
130 LET X=0:LET AS="m":GOSUB 300
140 LET Y=11:LET AS=" ":FOR X=0 TO 31
:GOSUB 300:NEXT X
150 FOR X=0 TO 28 STEP 4
152 LET Y=12:LET AS="!":GOSUB 300:LET
AS=STR$(350-X*12.5):LET Y=13:GOSUB 300
155 NEXT X
160 LET T=100:GOSUB 400
170 LET X=10:LET Y=18:LET AS="PRESS S
PACE":GOSUB 300
175 GOSUB 350:IF K$<>" " THEN GOTO 17
5
176 LET AS=" ":GOSUB 300
180 LET X=0:LET Y=6:LET AS="SPEED ="+
STR$(S)+": Press B for Brakes.":GOSUB 3
00
190 LET X=0:LET Y=10:LET XS=S:LET P=0
200 LET T=100:GOSUB 400
210 LET AS="m":GOSUB 300
```

```
220 LET X=X+1:IF P>0 THEN LET XS=XS-2
.5
230 LET T=350/XS:GOSUB 400
240 GOSUB 350:IF (K$="B" OR K$="b") A
ND P=0 THEN LET P=INT(X+D/12.5)
250 IF X<31 AND X<>P THEN GOTO 200
255 LET N=X:LET X=0:LET Y=16
260 IF N<28 THEN LET AS="You stopped
short.":GOSUB 300
265 IF N=28 THEN LET AS="SPOT ON!! Go
od braking.":GOSUB 300
267 IF N>28 THEN LET AS="OH DEAR!! Yo
u went too far.":GOSUB 300
270 LET X=10:LET Y=18:LET AS="PRESS S
PACE":GOSUB 300
280 GOSUB 350:IF K$=" " THEN GOTO 70
290 GOTO 280
300 REM
310 PRINT TAB(X,Y):AS:RETURN
350 REM FETCH KEY NO WAIT
360 LET K$=INKEY$:RETURN
400 REM WAIT
410 LET T=TIME+T
420 IF T>TIME THEN GOTO 420
430 RETURN
```

IS THIS YOUR COMPUTER?

Amiga/PC (GW-Basic)

Change the following lines:

```
90 LET S=(2+INT(RND*6))*10
310 LOCATE Y+1,X+1:PRINT AS:RETURN
360 LET K$=INKEY$:RETURN
410 LET T=TIMER+T/250
420 IF T>TIMER THEN GOTO 420
```

Atari ST (Stos)

Change the following lines:

```
70 MODE0:KEY OFF:HIDE
90 LET S=(2+INT(RND*6))*10
310 LOCATE X+1,Y+1:PRINT AS:RETURN
360 LET K$=INKEY$:RETURN
410 LET T=TIMER+T/250
420 IF T>TIMER THEN GOTO 420
```

Spectrum

Change the following lines:

```
90 LET S=(2+INT(RND*6))*10
310 PRINT AT Y,X:AS:RETURN
360 LET K$=INKEY$:RETURN
410 LET T=PEEK(23672)+T/2:IF T>255 THEN LET
T=T-256
420 IF T>PEEK(23672)+T/2 THEN GOTO 420
```

Commodore C64/128

Use Capital letters.

Change the following lines:

```
70 PRINT CHR$(147);
90 LET S=(2+INT(RND(0)*6))*10
310 POKE 211,X:POKE 214,Y:SYS58732:PRINT AS
360 GET K$:RETURN
410 LET T=TI+T*1.4
420 IF T>TI THEN GOTO 420
```

Amstrad CPC

Change the following lines:

```
90 LET S=(2+INT(RND*6))*10
310 LOCATE X+1,Y+1:PRINT AS
360 LET K$=INKEY$:RETURN
410 LET T=TIME+T*3
```

That's it for this month. Next month we'll learn all about attraction and repulsion - between magnets.



Passing an exam . . . applying for a job . . . whatever you want to do in life you need to be able to SPELL!

There's mounting alarm about the appalling standards of spelling among Britain's schoolchildren. MPs, teachers, parents and employers are all stressing the vital importance of being able to spell correctly.

Yet most homes have what could be the ideal means of teaching spelling – the computer.

Instead of zapping aliens it could be turned into the best weapon of all to deal a body blow to bad spelling. With the help of a brilliant new software package that not only makes practising spelling painless but also loads of fun as well.

FIVE ways to improve your spelling

In a Flash: Read the word as it flashes on the screen, then type it in. For practice runs, the word is left on the screen as it is typed.

Rocket: Hidden words have to be discovered in this hi-tech version of the old favourite Hangman. If they are guessed correctly the rocket will blast-off. Fail and all that's left is a load of scrap.

Lunar Buggy: Type fast for fun. The aim is to key in the word as it's pulled across the screen by the buggy. It has to be completed before the letters drop down a crater.

All Mixed Up: Jumbled letters have to be sorted out to find the scrambled word. To help beginners – and anyone else who is stuck – clues can be obtained at the press of a key.

Conveyor Belt: Words pass by on the screen and have to be remembered. Then they must be typed in – spelt correctly. This is a challenging test of both spelling and memory.

All the programs have several options for extra flexibility – like a timer with on/off option to add that extra challenge.

In addition to using the 5,000 words provided, parents – or children – can create their own word lists for using with SPELL! This makes the package ideal for practising those hard-to-learn words, or for "Learn these spellings" homework.

SPELL! is unique. It lets the user learn at his or her own pace. They can take as long as they like – or take on the computer in a high-speed challenge!

And this one package is ideal for everyone – with the lowest age group suitable for under-5s, while the more advanced words will stretch even the most able students.

It includes five different tests, each making use of more than 5,000 words – so much variety that you'll never get bored.



- 5 DIFFERENT TESTS
- OVER 5,000 WORDS
- FOR AGES 5 TO 15

SPELL! only costs £8.95. It is now available on disc and tape for six of the most popular home computers and can be ordered on the form below.



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3611

☐ BBC/Eik (tape)

3617

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3614

☐ ST (disc)

3613

☐ PC (3.5")

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3615

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Make sure YOU don't miss out. Fill in the form below and send it today!



This is the BBC version – other versions will vary

(Should you prefer to buy *Let's Compute!* from your newsagent each month, you can still join the Club by paying the normal joining fee of £5. You can do this by filling in the appropriate part of the form below.)

YES

PLEASE!

Tick as required

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Please send me the next 12 issues of *Let's Compute!* for the price of £14 (including postage and packing)

☐ 3102

I'd also like to become a founder member of the *Let's Compute!* Club for the special price of £3 (instead of the regular £5) – so please send me the bumper Club pack with my first issue.

☐ 3103

I'll order *Let's Compute!* from my newsagent, but I'd still like to join the Club and receive my bumper member's pack for £5.

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Part 7

BUILD YOUR OWN DATABASE

BUILD YOUR OWN DATABASE

BUILD YOUR OWN DATABASE

Get your printer ready
and load it with paper.
Roland Waddilove's
database is now
nearing completion

PRINT the cards

PRINTING A SINGLE CARD

The lines we've added this month print out ALL the cards. But what you only want to print out one of them?

There's an easy change you can make.

Delete Line 7150, change Line 7080 and add a new Line 7085:

```
7080 INPUT "Enter card number: ";x
```

Then add this line:

```
7085 x=x*5-4
```

How the program works

Let's see how we get the printer to do its job. The first few lines just print messages to make sure you're ready. Lines 7180 to 7160 are the ones that print the cards. As we've seen before, each card is five lines long and is stored in the array C\$(). The cards start at C\$(1), C\$(6), C\$(11) and so on. If the first character is an asterisk (*) it means that you haven't yet typed anything on that card. So it doesn't need to be printed out. Line 7090 checks this. Lines 7110 to 7130 print the card if there is information on it.

The *Let's Compute!* Database that we've been building up over the last few months is nearly finished. We can type in information on the cards, read them on the screen and save them to disk or tape.

But there are still a couple more things it needs to be able to do to before it's complete. You may want to print out the cards or change something if you make a mistake.

This month we'll see how to print the cards.

There are lots of reasons why you may want to do this. You may want to give someone a copy of all your cards. You may want to carry the facts that are on the cards with you when you are away from your computer.

For instance, if you are a train spotter you may want to check whether a train you see is already on your cards. Unless you have a portable computer, the only way of doing this is to look at a list on paper.

If you've got a printer connected to your computer, the lines printed here will let you print your cards. Here's what to do:

LOAD the program you've built up so far and type in the new lines. Then SAVE the latest version of the program. Now you're ready to RUN it.

To see it work either load some cards you've saved before or type a few in. Then choose 7 from the menu and see your cards print.

NEXT MONTH...

You'll add the final part of the program. Then you'll be able to alter a card if you make a mistake.

CARD INDEX DATABASE

1. Load a box of cards
2. Save a box of cards
3. Read/search for a card
4. Write on a new card
5. Throw away old cards
6. Change something on a card
7. Print the cards
8. Sort the cards into order
9. Stop the program

Cards free=45/Cards used=6
What do you want to do?
Please type in a number (1- 9)

Print out the cards program

```
7000 REM ===== Print cards =====
7010 CLS
7020 PRINT "Print out the cards"
7030 PRINT "-----"
7040 PRINT
7050 INPUT "Get your printer ready
then press Return";K$
7060 PRINT
7070 PRINT "Printing...";
7080 X=1
7090 IF C$(X)="*" THEN GOTO 7140
7100 VDU2:PRINT
7110 FOR Y=0 TO 4
7120 PRINT C$(X+Y):VDU3
7130 NEXT Y
7140 X=X+5
7150 IF X<255 THEN GOTO 7090
7160 RETURN
```

This
program
works on
all home
micros

IS THIS YOUR COMPUTER?

BBC/Electron/Archimedes

The program works as shown.

Spectrum

Change these lines:

```
7090 IF C$(X) = B$ THEN GO TO 7140
7100 LPRINT
7120 LPRINT C$(X+Y)
```

Amiga (Amos)/AtariST (Stos)/PC (GW Basic)

Change these lines:

```
7100 LPRINT
7120 LPRINT C$(X+Y)
```

CPC

Change these lines:

```
7100 PRINT #8
7120 PRINT #8,C$(X+Y)
```

C64

Use capital letters.

Change or add these lines:

```
7010 PRINT CHR$(147);
7075 OPEN 4,4
7100 PRINT #4,CHR$(13)
7120 PRINT #4,C$(X+Y)
7160 PRINT#4:CLOSE 4:RETURN
```


The Games Gang

Spaced Out!

Have you ever dreamed about piloting the Space Shuttle?

Well, you'll be able to live out your dreams in the autumn, when Virgin release a Shuttle simulator.

You control the flight from take-off to landing - in full 3D.

It lets you twiddle with all the knobs and fiddle with the doobries. And it sets several missions for you to complete.

All would-be astronauts will love it - but only on ST, Amiga and PC.



Disney Delights

Disney Software is one of the newest software houses in Britain. They are about to bring out loads of products for all sorts of computers including the Amiga, PC and Atari ST. The first bunch includes **Dick Tracy** and a computer game of the Steven Spielberg film about spiders, **Arachnophobia**.

Closer to the cartoon side of Disney is a game called **Duck Tales: The Quest For Gold**. This stars Scrooge McDuck and his nephews Huey, Dewey and Louie.

Apart from games, Disney are also due to release a few educational programs: **Donald's Alphabet Chase**, **Mickey's Runaway Zoo**, **Goofy's Railway Express** and **Mickey's Crossword Puzzle**. Keep your eyes peeled!

BLAST!

Shoot-'em-up fans with a C64 will be pleased to know that a few classics are now available for £2.99 and £3.99. For starters, Kixx is releasing Delta. As well as being tough, it also has the best soundtrack of any C64 game.

There's also Hunter's Moon - a game for thinkers and joystick wagglers. Ocean is also bringing out some older titles with a lower price. Parallax is a combination of flying, exploration and blasting which provides hours of addictive fun.

Peter's Patch!

Edward Connelly (8) from Middlesborough has some pokes for C64 players with an action-replay cartridge. These will give you infinite lives:

| | | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Prince Clumsy | POKE 13428,173 | | |
| Olli and Lissa | POKE 39662,165 | POKE 43396,165 | |
| Superkid | POKE 6315,165 | POKE 8159,165 | POKE 11433,165 |



Pam's Passwords



Having problems with Lucasfilm's **Night Shift** on the ST? These codes for the first 10 levels should be just the job for all the versions.

| LEVEL | CODE | LEVEL | CODE |
|-------|------------|-------|-----------|
| 1 | - | 6 | C-P-P-Pi |
| 2 | C-B-B-L | 7 | C-Pi-L-B |
| 3 | B-C-Pi-P | 8 | Pi-B-Pi-C |
| 4 | Pi-L-Pi-Pi | 9 | Pi-L-L-C |
| 5 | Pi-Pi-L-C | 10 | L-B-P-P |

(C = cherry, B = banana, L = lemon, P = plum, Pi = pineapple).

Andrew Vincent (aged 12) from Cheddar has five passwords for **Perplexity** but needs 10 more – can anyone help him?

| LEVEL | PASSWORD |
|-------|----------|
| 1 | - |
| 2 | Croupier |
| 3 | DECEIVE |
| 4 | CONTEND |
| 5 | LACERATE |
| 6 | VANGUARD |

Midwinter updated

Anyone who's played **Midwinter** on the Amiga, PC or ST will know that it was one of the best games last year. Well, the good news is that the programmers (Maelstrom) are about to release the sequel. It's called **Flames of Freedom**.

You can control over 20 vehicles and explore as many islands – the whole game is four times bigger than the original!

A Superior collection

If you've a BBC or Electron watch out for Sam 15 from Superior. It's another collection of four games.

You'll find three old favourites on it: **Last Ninja 2**, **Network** and **Ricochet**. The other game – **Cyburg Warriors** – is new. It's a sideways-scrolling shoot-'em-up. You can play it with one or two players so it gives you a chance to challenge a friend instead of just playing against your computer.

COLLECTION TIMES
9:00 AM
3:00 PM

If you've any hints, pokes or cheats you'd like us to print send them to:

Let's Compute!

**Europa House, Adlington
Park, Macclesfield
SK10 4NP.**

CHARLIE'S CHEATS!

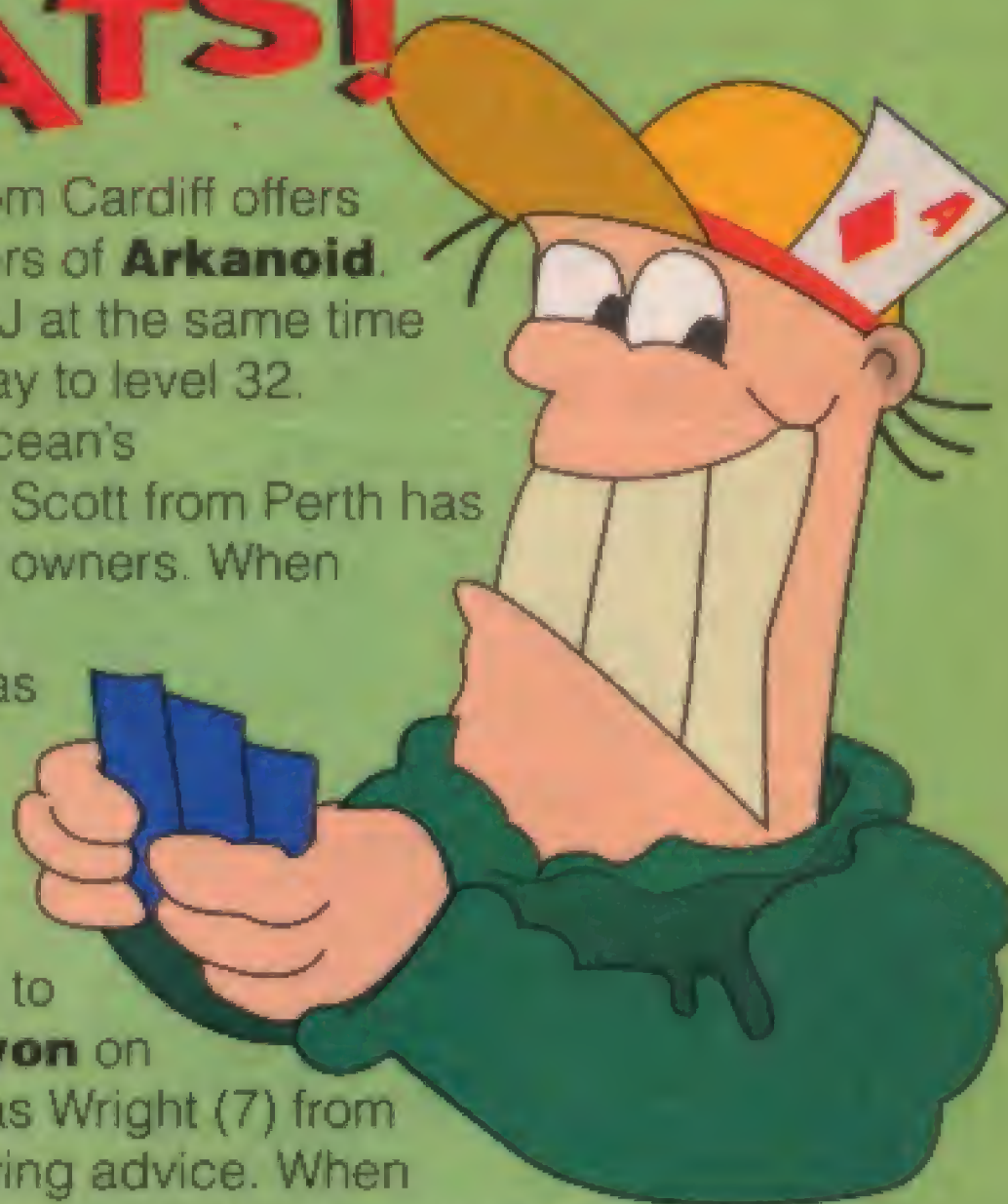
Lee Tavener aged 13 from Cardiff offers help to BBC Micro players of **Arkanoid**. Press Delete, D, H and J at the same time to skip levels – all the way to level 32.

Having trouble with Ocean's **Untouchables**? Dean Scott from Perth has some help for Spectrum owners. When you get onto the score-board enter your name as Humphrey Bogart and start again. Press Q W E together and you'll be able to skip levels.

We've had a lot of tips to help with playing **Nevryon** on the Archimedes. Nicholas Wright (7) from Ossett sent us the following advice. When you are on the options screen click the mouse on the stage icon until it shows the level you want. Then click the redefine icon but don't redefine your keys. Click start game and your computer will forget you need a password.

If anyone's still stuck on Mirrorsoft's **Back To The Future 2** on the Atari ST and Amiga, try the following. Start the game, pause it and type THE ONLY NEAT THING TO DO. You'll then find you've got infinite lives! You can also type Y to access the next level.

Geoffrey Swan from Ruislip has been practising for the next World Cup on his CPC. If you need a helping hand in **Italy 90** press 6 while playing and the referee will blow the whistle and you'll go to the penalty shoot out.



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A comprehensive guide with easy to follow examples and simple explanations to help you use your printer more effectively. Learn AmigaDOS commands for printer control and printing tips and tricks from the experts. Includes a companion diskette with essential printer utilities.

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The Amiga has wonderful music talents. This book shows you how to take advantage of those capabilities, it starts with the fundamentals of music and progresses to the details of using software such as Music Construction Set, Aegis/Oxxi and AudioMaster and how to construct your own MIDI interface, includes companion diskette containing lots of music examples.

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The best selling book 'Tricks & Tips' and its follow up book 'More Tricks & Tips' have been replaced by this single volume. The companion diskette is included. A great collection of programming hints and techniques for all Amiga users.

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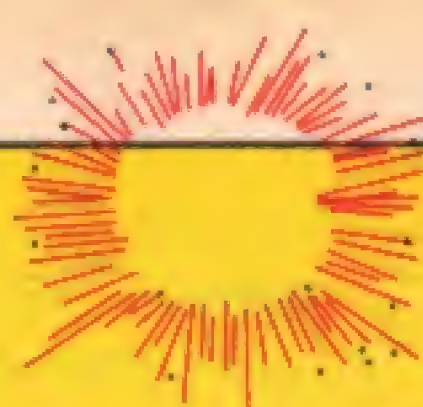
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**Challenge your
and see who has**

SHOOT

IS THIS YOUR COMPUTER?

The program
listed is for the BBC,
Archimedes and
Electron

Amiga

Change the following lines:

```
20 CLS:LET TU=1000:LET MT=0
30 DEF FNR(R)=INT(RND*R+1)
110 LET AS="INKEYS:IF AS="A" OR AS="a" THEN GOTO
230
120 IF AS="S" OR AS="s" THEN GOTO 200
130 IF AS="D" OR AS="d" THEN LET S1=S1-FNR(3):G
OTO 260
140 IF AS="M" OR AS="m" THEN GOTO 310
150 IF AS="K" OR AS="k" THEN GOTO 340
160 IF AS="O" OR AS="o" THEN LET S2=S2-FNR(3):G
OTO 370
610 LOCATE Y+1,X+1
```

PC

Make the changes listed above for the Amiga to Lines 30, 110, 120, 130, 140, 150 160 and 610.

Also change Line 20:

```
20 SCREEN1:CLS:LET TU=1000:LET MT=0
```

Atari ST (Stos)

Make the changes listed above for the Amiga to Lines 20, 30, 110, 120, 130, 140, 150 and 160.

Also change Line 610:

```
610 LOCATE X,Y
```

Spectrum

Make the changes listed above for the Amiga to Lines 20, 30, 110, 120, 130, 140, 150 and 160. Also change Line 610:

```
610 PRINT AT Y,X;
```

Commodore C64/128

Use Capital letters. Make the changes listed above for the Amiga to Lines 120, 130, 140, 150 and 160. Also change these lines:

```
20 PRINT CHR$(147);:LET TU=1000:LET MT=0
30 DEF FNR(R)=INT(RND(0)*R+1)
110 GET AS:IF AS="A" OR AS="a" THEN GOTO 230
550 PRINT CHR$(147);:PRINT"PLAYER 1 SCORED ";S1
610 POKE 211,X:POKE 214,Y:SYS58732
```

Amstrad CPC

Make the changes listed above for the Amiga to Lines 20, 30, and 610. Also change these lines:

```
110 IF INKEY(69)<>-1 THEN GOTO 230
120 IF INKEY(60)<>-1 THEN GOTO 200
130 IF INKEY(61)<>-1 THEN LET S1=S1-FNR(3):GOTO
260
140 IF INKEY(38)<>-1 THEN GOTO 310
150 IF INKEY(37)<>-1 THEN GOTO 340
160 IF INKEY(34)<>-1 THEN LET S2=S2-FNR(3):GOTO
370
```


friend at this exciting game
the better shooting skills

T'EM



This game and the description printed here are by David Johnston (11) from Glasgow. It's a two player game. Both try to shoot the same moving target.

IT'S YOUR PROGRAM

If you've written any programs, let us see them. You may soon see YOUR work in *Let's Compute!*

Don't worry if you can't make your programs work on all the computers we cover. Send us a program for any computer and our experts will convert any we print to work on all home computers.

Send them on disc or tape to *Let's Compute!*, Europa House, Adlington Park, Macclesfield SK10 4NP. Remember to tell us your name, address and age.

Also send us a description of the program. If you have a phone tell us the number. That way, if we're going to print it, we can let you know quickly.

Both players have a gun. Player one's gun is at the bottom and player two's is at the side.

See who can shoot the most moving targets. Don't fire too much because each time you fire your score goes down.

After one minute the screen will clear and the scores will appear. You will then be asked if you want another go. Answer Y or N.

HERE ARE SOME CHANGES YOU COULD MAKE:

- You could try making the game last longer or shorter by changing TU in line 20.

- Try altering the shape of the gun and the target by changing lines 30, 60 and 70.

- You can change the movement keys in lines 100 to 150.

- When you hit the target try making a sound by adding to lines 230 and 290.



Ace game writer:
David Johnston

| PLAYER 1 | | PLAYER 2 | |
|----------|---|----------|---|
| Left | A | Up | K |
| Right | S | Down | M |
| Fire | D | Fire | O |

These are the keys to use

```

10 LET SX=19:LET SY=21:LET EA=12:LET E
B=16:LET A=11:LET B=15:LET S1=0:LET S2=0
20 CLS:VDU 23;8202;0;0;0;:LET TU=1000:
LET MT=0
30 DEF FNR(R)=RND(R)
40 LET X=A:LET Y=SY:GOSUB 610:PRINT"A"
50 LET X=1:LET Y=1:GOSUB 610:PRINT"PLA
YER ONE'S SCORE ";S1;" "
60 LET X=1:LET Y=2:GOSUB 610:PRINT"PLA
YER TWO'S SCORE ";S2;" "
70 LET X=SX:LET Y=B:GOSUB 610:PRINT"<"
80 LET X=EA:LET Y=EB:GOSUB 610:PRINT"O
"
90 LET X=A:LET Y=SY-1:GOSUB 610:PRINT"
"
100 LET X=SX-1:LET Y=B:GOSUB 610:PRINT"
"
110 IF INKEY(-66)=-1 THEN GOTO 230
120 IF INKEY(-82)=-1 THEN GOTO 200
130 IF INKEY(-51)=-1 THEN LET S1=S1-FNR
(3):GOTO 260
140 IF INKEY(-102)=-1 THEN GOTO 310
150 IF INKEY(-71)=-1 THEN GOTO 340
160 IF INKEY(-55)=-1 THEN LET S2=S2-FNR
(3):GOTO 370
170 IF TU=0 THEN GOTO 550
180 LET TU=TU-1
190 GOTO 410

```

```

200 IF A=SX THEN GOTO 130
210 LET X=A:LET Y=SY:GOSUB 610:PRINT" "
:LET A=A+1:LET X=A:LET Y=SY:GOSUB 610
220 PRINT"A":GOTO 130
230 IF A=1 THEN GOTO 120
240 LET X=A:LET Y=SY:GOSUB 610:PRINT" "
:LET A=A-1:LET X=A:LET Y=SY:GOSUB 610
250 PRINT"A":GOTO 130
260 LET X=A:LET Y=SY-1:GOSUB 610:PRINT"
|"
270 IF EA=A THEN LET S1=S1+25:LET X=EA:
LET Y=EB
280 IF EA=A THEN GOSUB 610:PRINT"*":FOR
Z=1 TO 200:NEXT Z:GOSUB 610
290 IF EA=A THEN PRINT" ":LET EA=FNR(SX
-1):LET EB=FNR(SY-4)+3:GOTO 140
300 LET BV=0:GOTO 140
310 IF B=SY THEN GOTO 150
320 LET X=SX:LET Y=B:GOSUB 610:PRINT" "
:LET B=B+1:LET X=SX:LET Y=B:GOSUB 610
330 PRINT"<":GOTO 150
340 IF B=3 THEN GOTO 160
350 LET X=SX:LET Y=B:GOSUB 610:PRINT" "
:LET B=B-1:LET X=SX:LET Y=B:GOSUB 610
360 PRINT"<":GOTO 160
370 LET X=SX-1:LET Y=B:GOSUB 610:PRINT"
="
380 IF EB=B THEN LET S2=S2+25:LET X=EA:

```

```

LET Y=EB
390 IF EB=B THEN GOSUB 610:PRINT"*":FOR
Z=1 TO 200:NEXT Z:GOSUB 610
400 IF EB=B THEN PRINT" ":LET EA=FNR(SX
-1):LET EB=FNR(SY-4)+3
410 IF MT=4 THEN GOTO 430
420 LET MT=MT+1:GOTO 40
430 LET MT=0
440 LET D=FNR(4)
450 LET X=EA:LET Y=EB:GOSUB 610:PRINT"
"
460 IF D=1 AND EB=3 THEN GOTO 410
470 IF D=2 AND EB=SY-1 THEN GOTO 410
480 IF D=3 AND EA=SX-1 THEN GOTO 410
490 IF D=4 AND EA=1 THEN GOTO 410
500 IF D=1 THEN LET EB=EB-1
510 IF D=2 THEN LET EB=EB+1
520 IF D=3 THEN LET EA=EA+1
530 IF D=4 THEN LET EA=EA-1
540 GOTO 40
550 CLS:PRINT"PLAYER 1 SCORED ";S1
560 PRINT"PLAYER 2 SCORED ";S2
570 PRINT"ANOTHER GO?":INPUT AS
580 IF AS="Y" OR AS="y" THEN GOTO 10
590 IF AS="N" OR AS="n" THEN STOP
600 GOTO 550
610 PRINTTAB(X,Y);
620 RETURN

```


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Turtle graphics is a vital part of any Logo program. And that's what Turtle Logo is. Specially written for the Electron, BBC Micro and A3000/Archimedes series, it is on the tape or disc that comes with the Let's Compute! Club bumper pack.

You can find out how to join the Club on Page 32 - and about all the other goodies sent out to members.

However, if you only want Turtle Logo we'll send it to you for just £1 if you complete and return the coupon below

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NOW IT'S THE IMPOSSIBLE CUBE

Remember in January and February Tricky asked Tech to do the impossible? Well Tricky's at it again!

He's worked out another trick using his computer and the Logo language.

It's Tech's birthday so he's made a cube and sent it to Tech for a present. The program he used is shown on the right.

Our picture shows Tech's surprise when the present arrived. And no wonder! Maths experts call it the impossible cube. You can easily draw one yourself using Tricky's program.

You first need to run the Logo Language. This is available for most makes of home computer.

(If you haven't got Logo and you're using an Acorn computer the Let's Compute! Turtle Logo is an ideal starting point - see the offer on the left.)

Let's Compute! Turtle Logo is a very simple version of Logo. It doesn't leave much memory in your computer. So some tricks have had to be used to make the impossible cube work. These are shown below.

If you're using a more powerful version of Logo just type in Tricky's program. You can see his cube by typing:

CUBE 12

Now, can YOU draw an interesting, interweaving pattern in Logo? If you can we'd love to see it.

Post it to Let's Compute! Adlington Park, Macclesfield SK10 4NP. There's a super Let's Compute! baseball cap for the writer of every one we print.

Turtle Logo tricks

Here's how to draw the Impossible Cube using Turtle Logo:

- Load and Run Turtle Logo.
- Type in the blue parts of the program. Then enter SAVE "C0 and press RETURN.
- Type QUIT and then press Return. Type RUN, followed by Return.
- Type in the green parts of the program. Then SAVE "C123.
- Again type QUIT and RUN.
- Type in the pink parts of the program. Then SAVE "C456.
- Again type QUIT and RUN.

● Type:

LOAD "C123 MERGE "C0

A part of your impossible cube will be drawn.

● Type:

LOAD "C456 MERGE "C0
C4 0 12 C4 120 12
C5 0 12 C5 120 12

Another part of your impossible cube will be drawn.

● Type:

C6 12 HM 48 RT 60
C6 12 HM 288 FD 48

The last part of your cube will be drawn.

Tricky's program

```
TO CUBE :D
C1 0 :D C1 120 :D
C2 0 :D C2 120 :D
C3 0 :D C3 120 :D
C4 0 :D C4 120 :D
C5 0 :D C5 120 :D
C6 :D HM :D * 4 RT 60
C6 :D HM :D * 24 FD :D * 4
END
```

```
TO A1 :A :D
LT :A + 300 FD :D
END
```

```
TO A2 :A :D
RT :A + 300 FD :D
END
```

```
TO HM :D
PU HOME BK :D PD
END
```

```
TO C1 :A :D
HM :D * 16
A1 :A :D * 12
A2 :A :D * 18
A1 :A :D * 4
LT :A + 300
A1 :A :D * 22
A1 :A :D * 16
END
```

```
TO C2 :A :D
HM :D * 24
A1 :A :D * 20
A2 :A :D * 30
A2 :A :D * 20
END
```

```
TO C3 :A :D
HM :D * 4
RT :A + 120
FD :D * 12
HM :D * 4
A1 :A :D * 4
A1 :A :D * 8
BK :D * 8
LT :A + 120
FD :D * 6
A1 :A :D * 8
END
```

```
TO C4 :A :D
HM :D * 4
FD :D * 10
A1 :A :D * 20
END
```

```
TO C5 :A :A
HM :D PU FD :D * 11 PD
A1 :A :D * 12
LT :A + 120
FD :D * 12
END
```

```
TO C6 :D
RT 120 FD :D * 4 RT 60
FD :D * 8 BK :D * 8
LT 120 FD :D * 8
END
```




SIX POINTED STAR

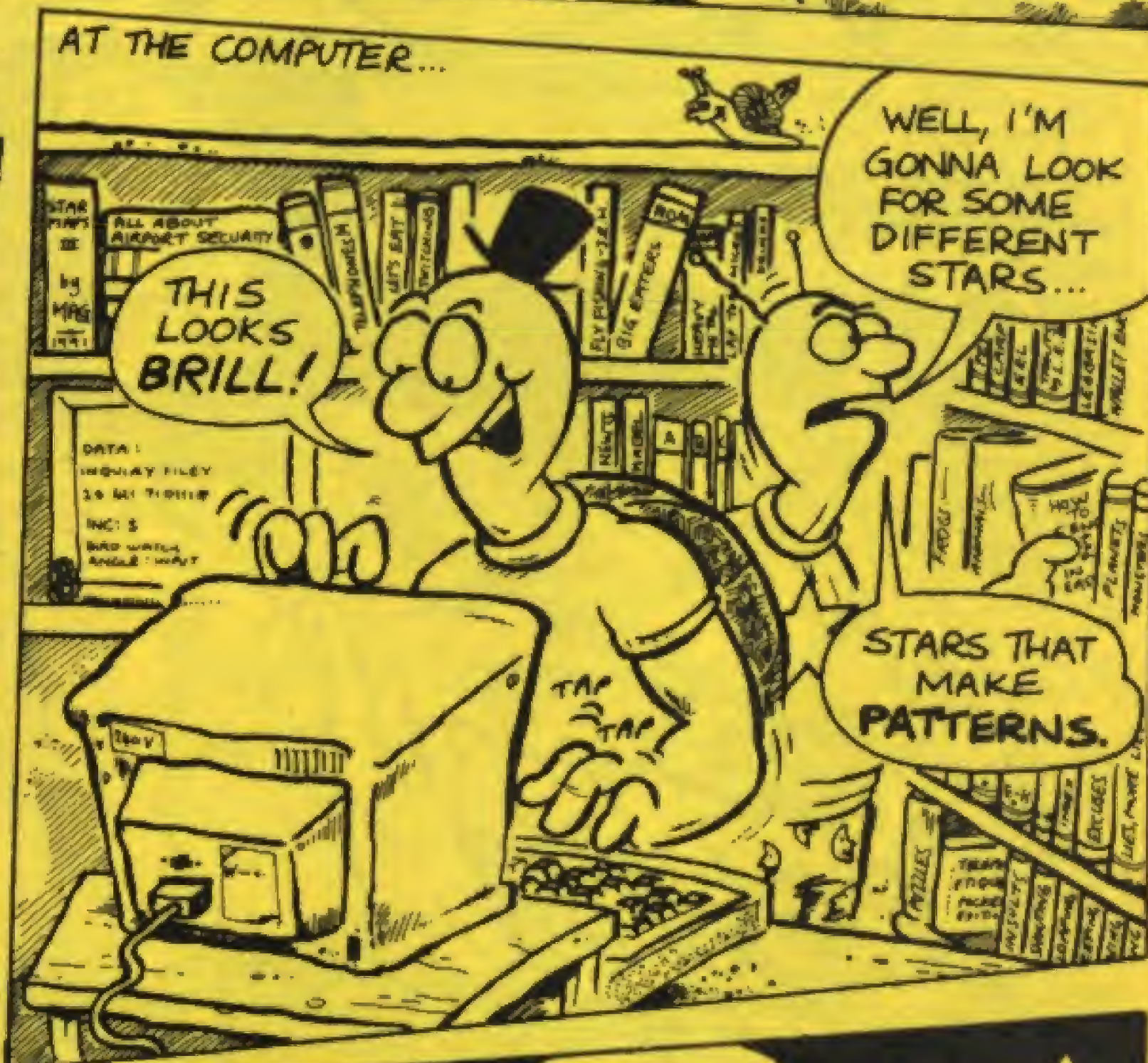
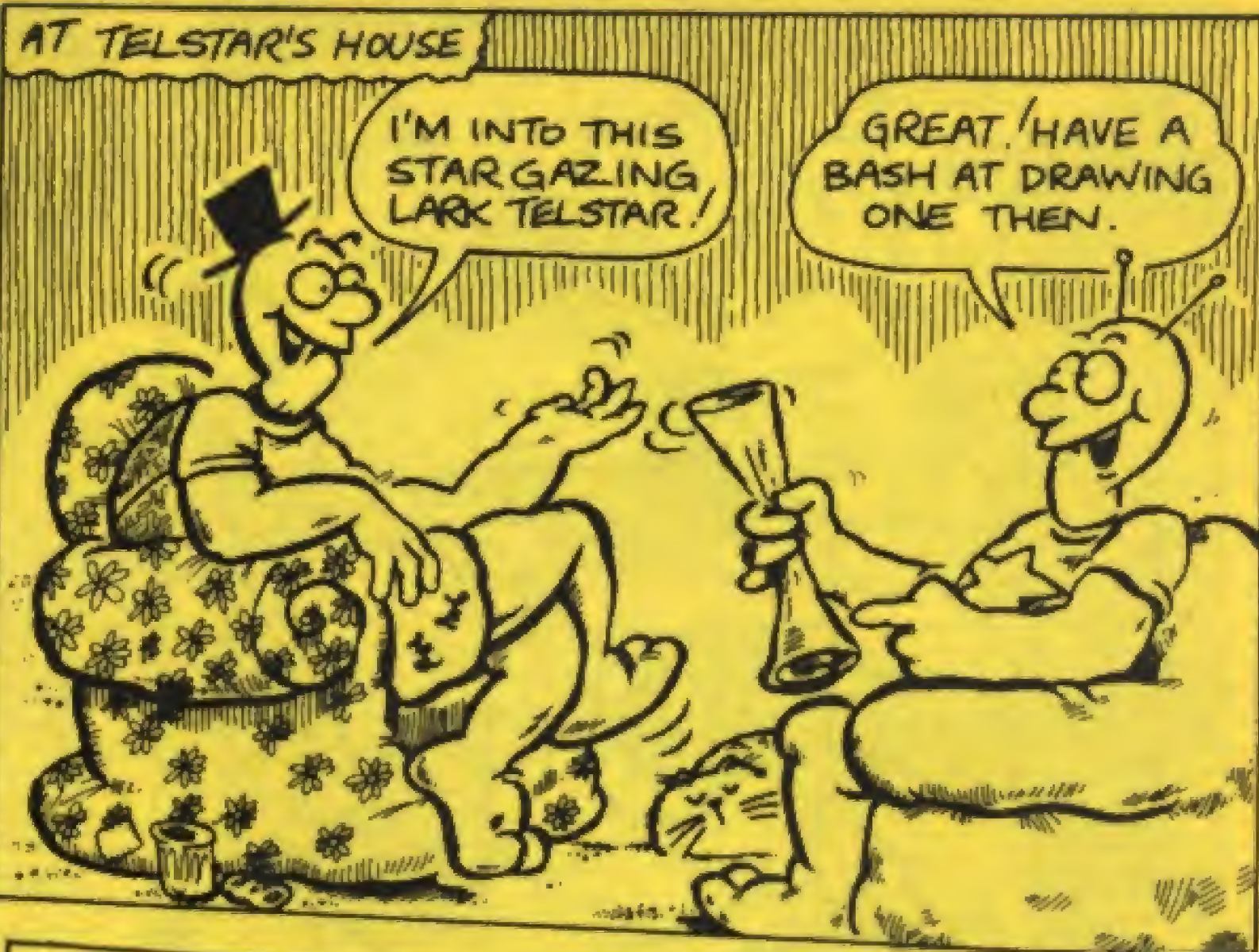
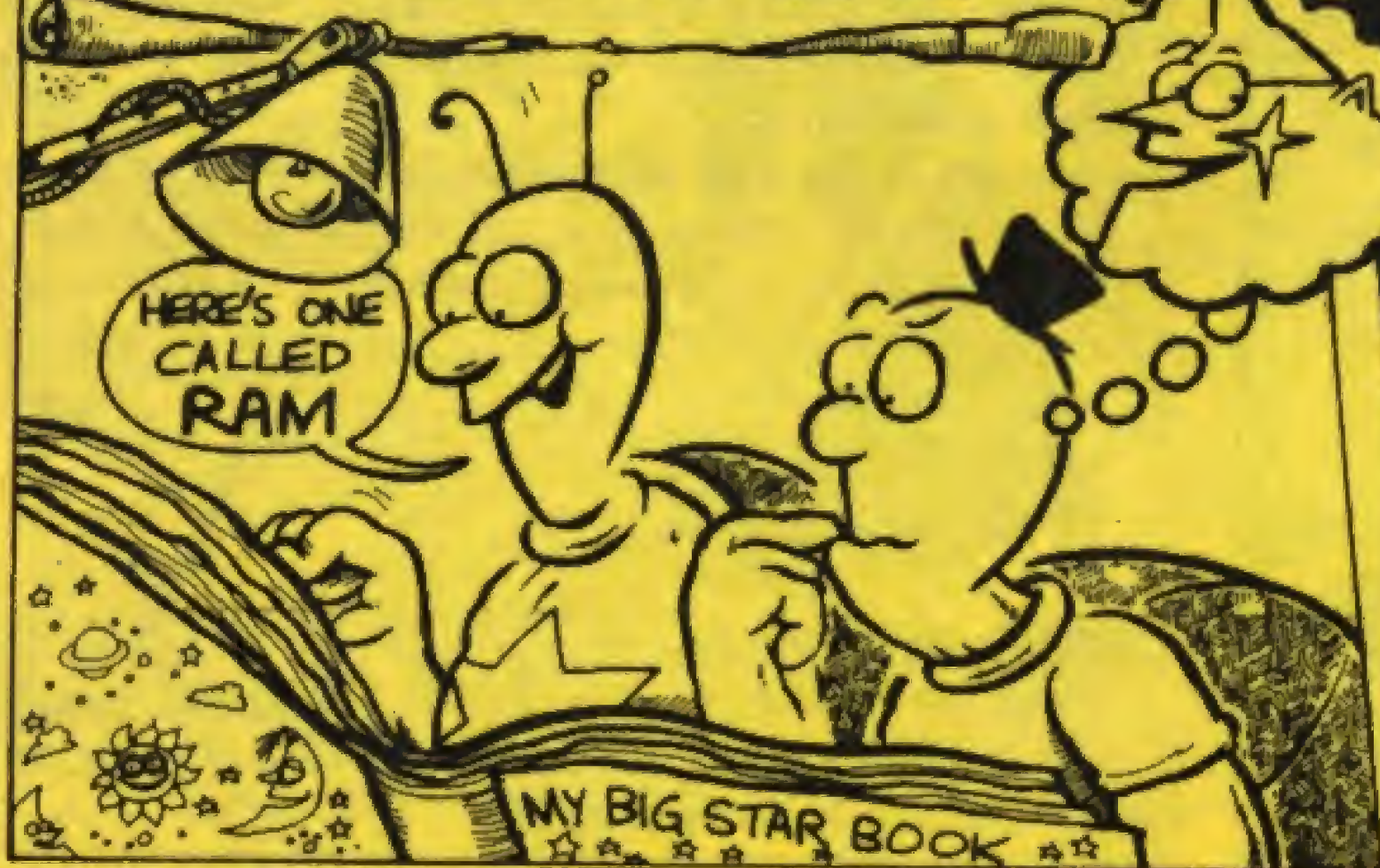
```
TO STAR :BIG
JUMP :BIG
REPEAT 6 [TURN :BIG LT 180]
REPEAT 3 [JUMP :BIG]
END
```

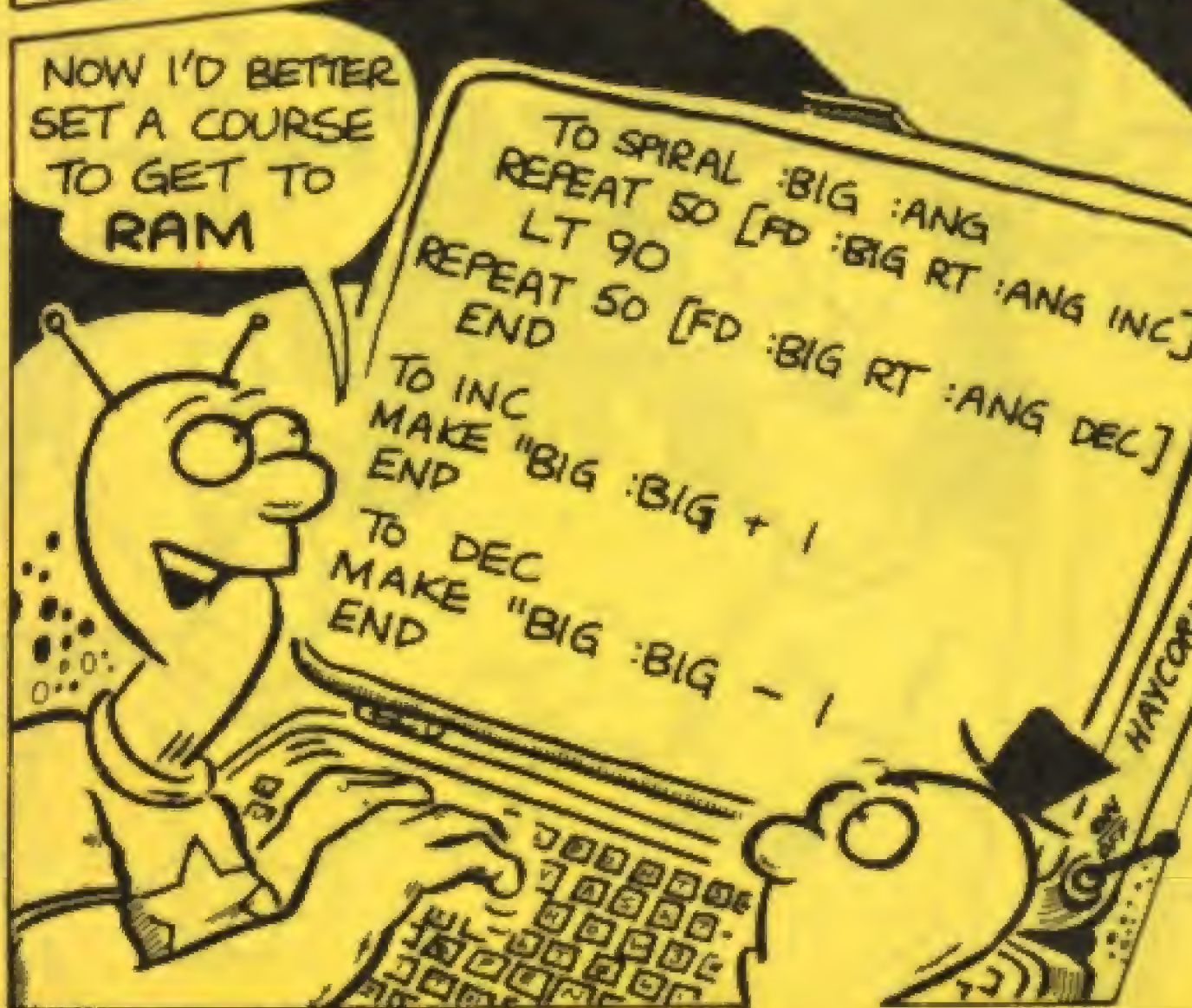
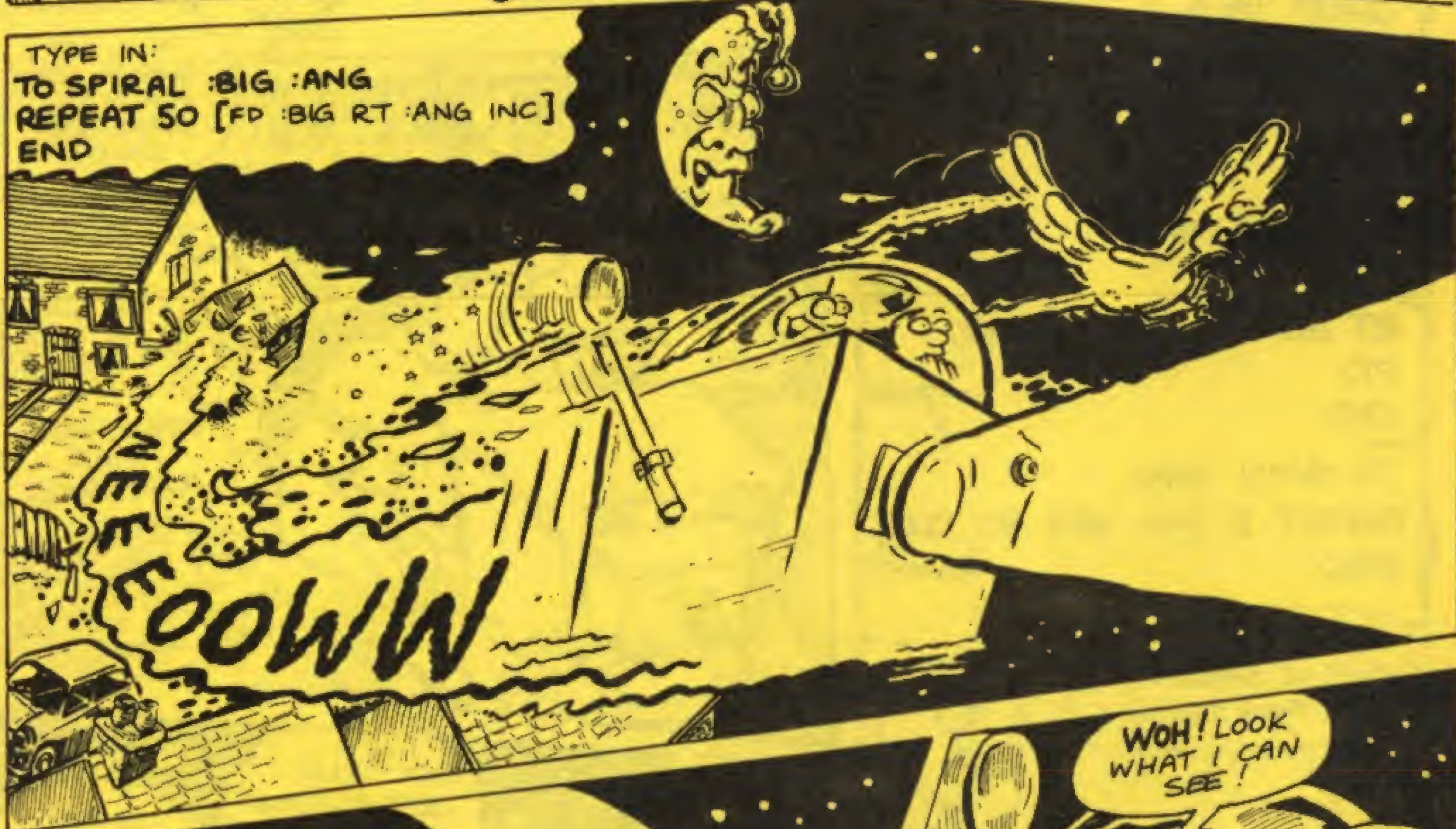
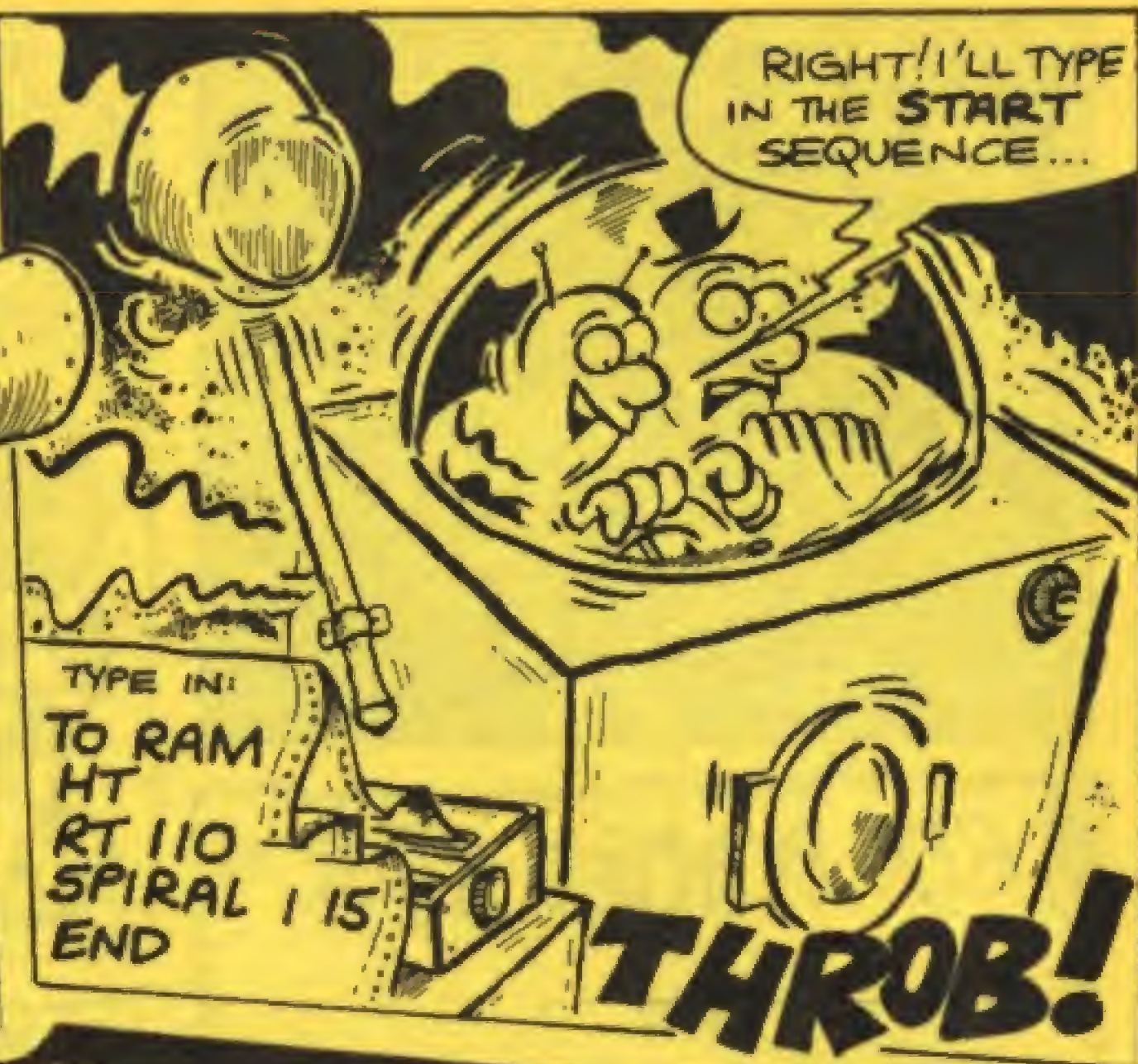
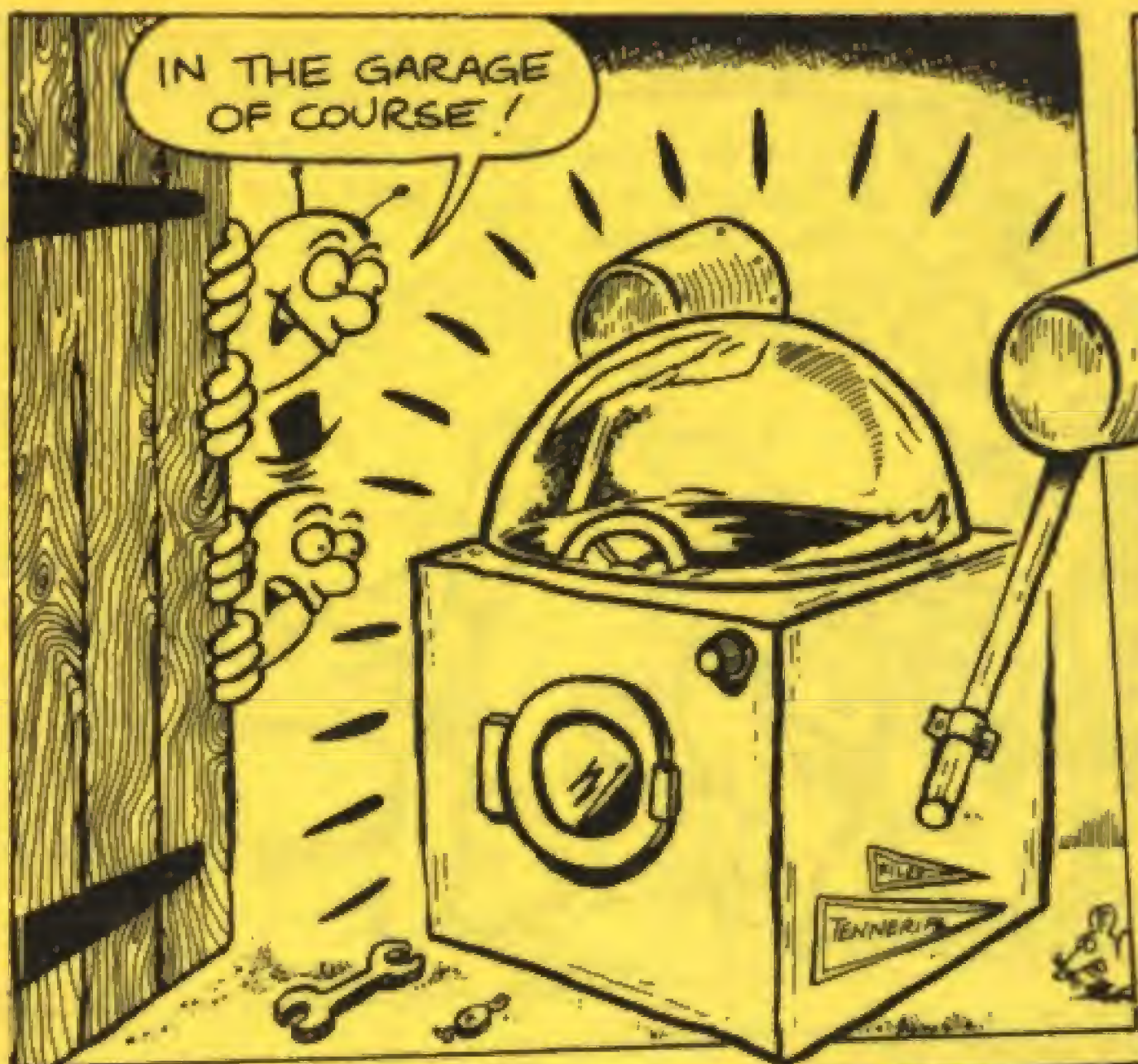
```
TO JUMP :BIG
PU
RT 30 FD :BIG RT 60
PD
END
```

```
TO TURN :BIG
REPEAT 2 [FD :BIG RT 120]
END
```

RIGHT THEN! TYPE THIS IN, SAVE IT AND THEN TRY THIS:

```
MAKE "BIG 20
REPEAT 10 [STARG :BIG MAKE "BIG :BIG + 10]
```





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life! - so
far!

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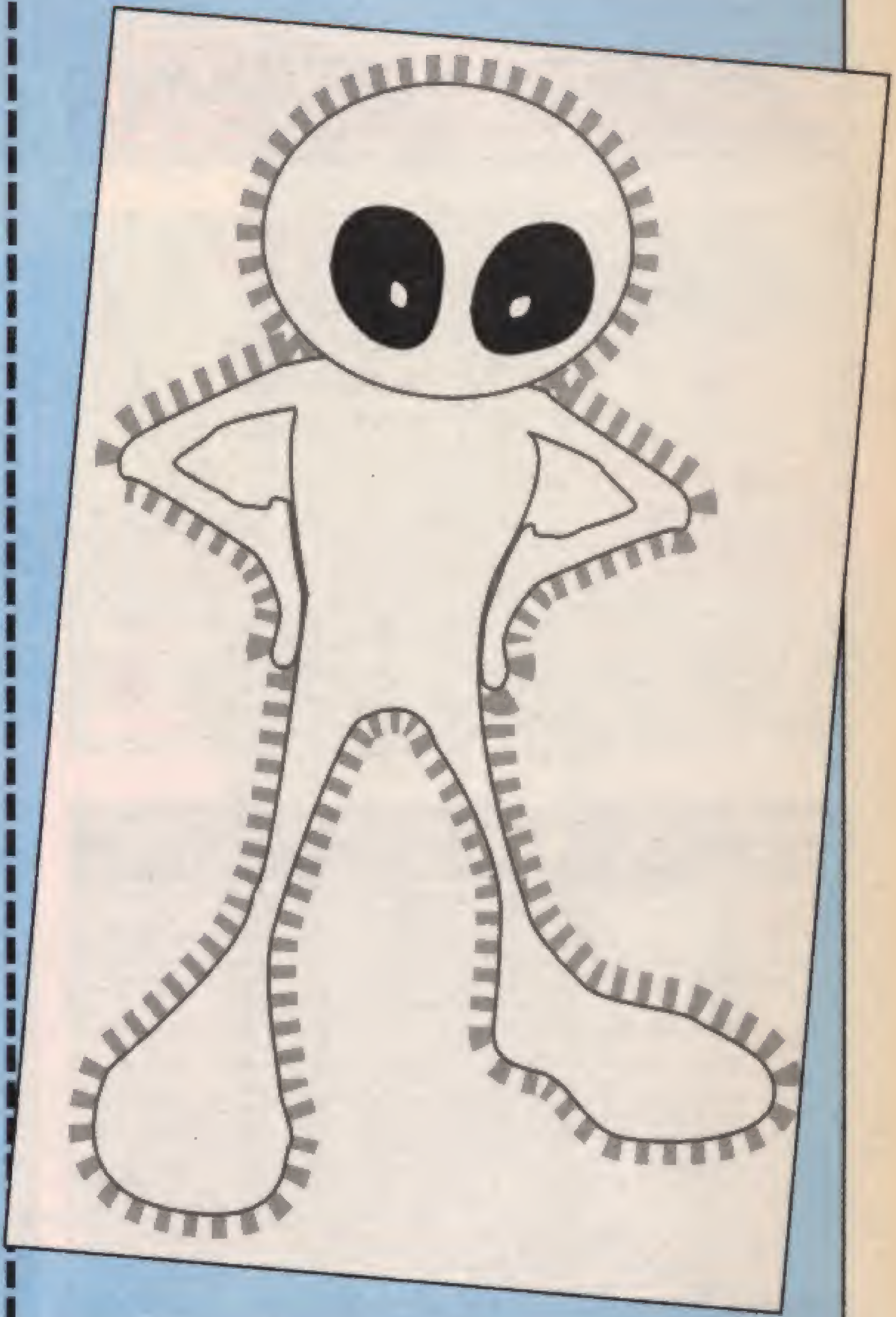
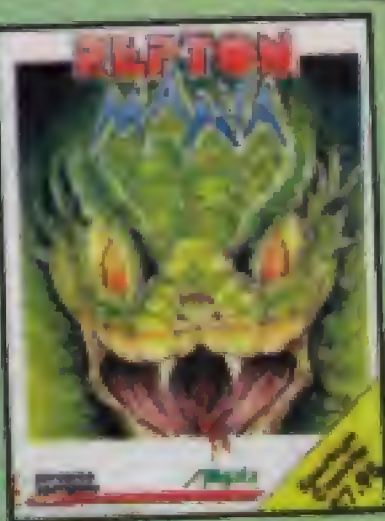
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1

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2

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3

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4

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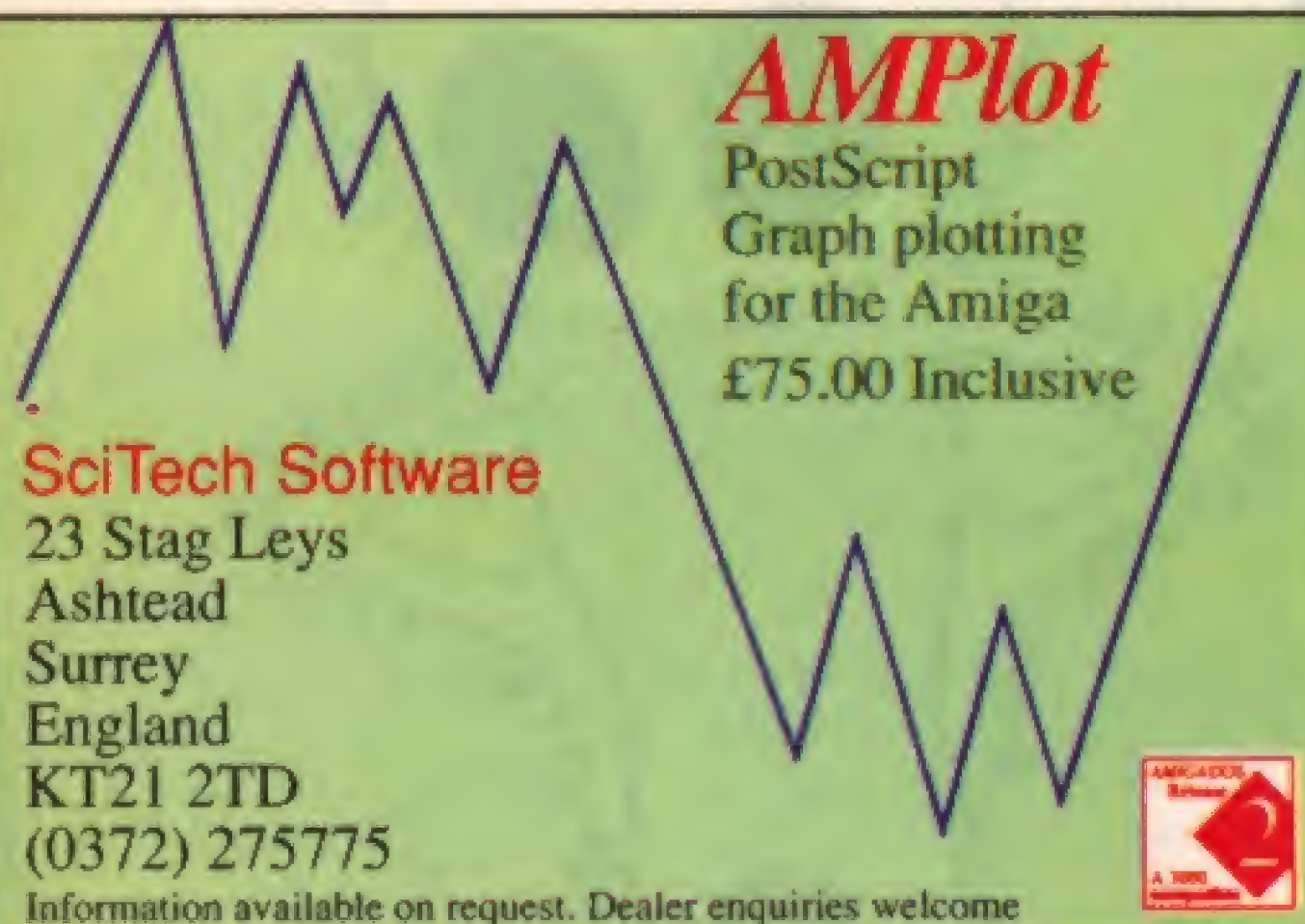
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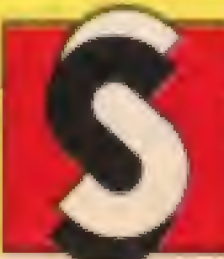
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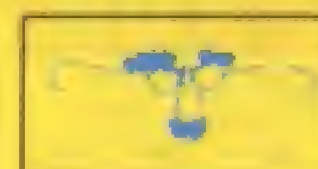


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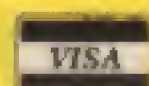
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They are the Champions

Amiga, ST, PC and C64 owners were offered the chance to win the very latest in joysticks in February. We had hundreds of correct entries but only 30 of you could win:

Kelly Butler (10) Todmorden; Jeremy Hanson aged 9) Thorpe Bay; Jon Aldridge (11) Draycott; Martin Rolfe aged 12) Portsmouth; Carl Fairchild aged 11) Warrington; G Brown (11) Drax; Chen-Lee Birch (13) Newcastle; Derek Crance aged 10) Abberton; Simon Kenway (9) Woodley; Stuart Stafford (14) Dunston; Simon Kidd (10) Bromsgrove; Jon Lord (13) Aintree; Tong Ip (11) Redditch; Becky Rhodes aged 10) Armitage; David Yu (12) Wimbledon; Paula Gower (11) Hastings; James Freeman (11) Rye; Donna Hau (13) Radcliffe; Steven Dilks (9) South Elmest; Alan Addison (11) Minlaw; Tim Danby (11) Stroud; Noel Andrews (12) Eaton; Louise Oland (12) Wincanton; Paul Warner (15) Stockwood; Francis Ouramar (13) Cambridge; Carolyn Crickman (10) Poyworth; Daniel Easton (13) Barford; Richard Bernard (7) Peachaven; Scott Ive (12) Morden and Manuel Antelo (15) London.

S.T.U.N.ning Winners

Testing your powers of detective work, we asked you four simple questions about Domark's new game S.T.U.N. Runner in the February issue of *Let's Compute*.

We had a massive response and a Sony Walkman goes to:

John Sear (13) Leighton Buzzard; V Forsman (13) Dunningwell and Joanne Pratt aged 10) Clacton

While five very special mugs are winging their ways to:

Philip Bullock (14) Oswaldtwistle; Stephen Hill (11) Weston; Gerrant Watts (10) New Milton; Paul Hodgson (11) Portsmouth and R Lowe (34) Bradford

Runners-up prizes of an exclusive Domark keyring go to:

Simon Robinson (8) Bridgwater; D Steel aged 39) Brampton; Thomas Meeks (7) Hove; Simon Lee (7) Whitestone; Karl Scoffham (7) Nuneaton; David McEwan (13) London; Paul Housley (11) Parkgate; David Plank aged 12) Edinburgh; P Gunnane (11) Inan; Elizabeth Theaker (12) Elmsmere Port; John Tootell (11) Fareham; Stuart Cliff (11) Warley; Chris Williams aged 10) Sandbach; Paul Tomlinson (13) Oldham; Dan Scott (8) London; M Dolling aged 11) Illogan; D Proudey (30) Reading; Layton Lawry (13) Redruth; Niall Doolaghan (17) Roundshaw; Gareth Walsh (10) Rishon; Gavin Mackay (14) Irvine; Russell Hardman (13) Lafford; Liam Piddock (9) Selby; John Rivers (7) Seasalter and John Cross (26) Felixstowe.

HIGH SCORE CHALLENGE!

| Game | Computer | Score | Name | Age |
|-----------------|------------|---------|-------------------|-----|
| Battle Valley | Amiga | 233,700 | Elliot Campbell | 10 |
| Bombjack | ST | 258,050 | Martin Juhkental | 8 |
| Bughunter | Archimedes | 6,198 | Robert Shaw | 12 |
| Canyon | BBC | 9,229 | Nicholas Lee | 11 |
| Codename: Droid | BBC | 191,500 | Nicholas Japp | 11 |
| Conqueror | Archimedes | 363,490 | Paul Solecki | 14 |
| Dan Dare | Spectrum | 78,000 | Steven Farrell | 11 |
| Danger UXB | BBC | 249,310 | Rajesh Parmar | 14 |
| Dizzy | CPC | 16,500 | Paul Turner | 11 |
| Ghouls | BBC | 1,398 | Benedict McBride | 10 |
| Harrier Attack | CPC | 113,280 | Ben Griffin | 11 |
| Hellfire | PC | 3,730 | Mike Forbes | 11 |
| Hopper | BBC | 67,300 | Noel Ireland | 12 |
| Hobgoblin II | BBC | 43,200 | Philip Kyte | 13 |
| Hunchback | CPC | 10,000 | James Higgins | 9 |
| James Pond | Amiga | 622,750 | Stuart Billingham | 11 |
| Keyman | BBC | 200,250 | Robert Jenkinson | 12 |
| Labyrinth | BBC | 320,990 | A Jenkins | 12 |

| Game | Computer | Score | Name | Age |
|------------------|------------|-----------|----------------|-----|
| MetroCross | Spectrum | 1,561,781 | Richard Davies | 8 |
| Mr EE | BBC | 168,650 | Nicholas Japp | 11 |
| Outrun | C64T | 7,307,790 | Paul Turner | 10 |
| ProBoxing | C64 | 165,100 | David Yu | 12 |
| Rick Dangerous | PC | 13,920 | Daniel Gregory | 13 |
| R-Type | Spectrum | 376,400 | Matthew Cook | 11 |
| Rollin | C64 | 9,433 | Paul Tierney | 11 |
| Rolling Thunder | Spectrum | 2,010 | Lee McShane | 12 |
| Snake | BBC | 652 | Vicky Twidle | 13 |
| Sorcery | CPC | 67,100 | Neil Winter | 12 |
| Space Pilot | BBC | 114,300 | Hamish Lockie | 10 |
| Spy vs Spy | C64 | 9,610 | Stevie Bruce | 11 |
| Starship Command | Electron | 328 | Tim Waters | 12 |
| Super Off Road | Amiga | 110,234 | Wayne Gullifer | 11 |
| Test Drive | Amiga | 58,241 | Darren Leahy | 14 |
| Thrust | BBC | 38,000 | R Nelder | 13 |
| Thundermonk | Archimedes | 48,134 | James Rice | 10 |

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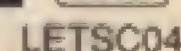
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few keys and returned with a huge smile on his silly face.

The program here is what he handed over.

He said he'd thought it out carefully and made sure it will work on all computers.

Just type it in and **RUN** it. And let the magic numbers do the rest!

How was this clever program put together? We'll go through it line by line next month.

```
10 LET N=0:DIM L(100)
20 LET M=M+1:READ L(M)
30 IF L(M)<>99 THEN GOTO 20
40 LET T=M*2:REM ** DOUBLES IT!!
50 FOR T=1 TO M-1
60 IF L(T)=13 THEN PRINT:GOTO 80
70 PRINT CHR$(L(T));
80 NEXT T
90 REM THE SECRET IS IN THE NUMBERS
100 DATA 13,73,84,32,73,83,32,73,77
110 DATA 80,79,83,83,73,66,76,69,32
120 DATA 84,79,32,87,82,73,84,69,32
130 DATA 65,13,80,82,79,71,82,65,77
140 DATA 32,84,79,32,68,79,85,66,76
150 DATA 69,32,84,72,69,32,77,69,77
160 DATA 79,82,89,46,13,89,79,85,32
170 DATA 72,65,86,69,32,66,69,69,78
180 DATA 32,84,82,73,67,75,69,68,46
190 DATA 13,65,80,82,73,76,32,70,79
200 DATA 79,76,33,13,13,99
```

Coming soon ... in

LET'S COMPUTE!



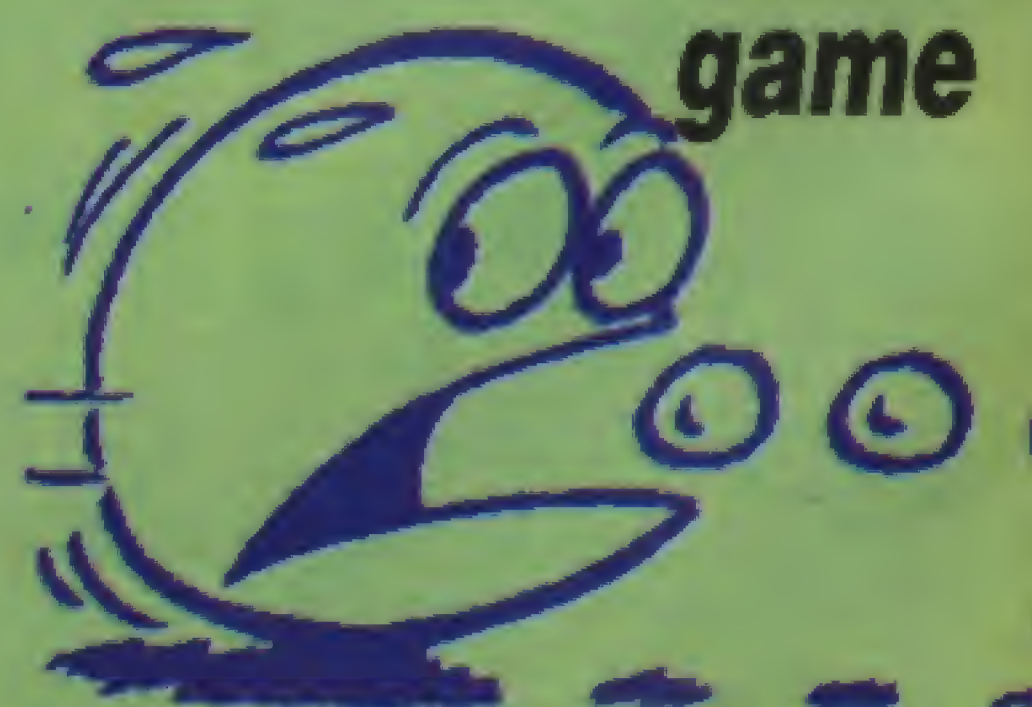
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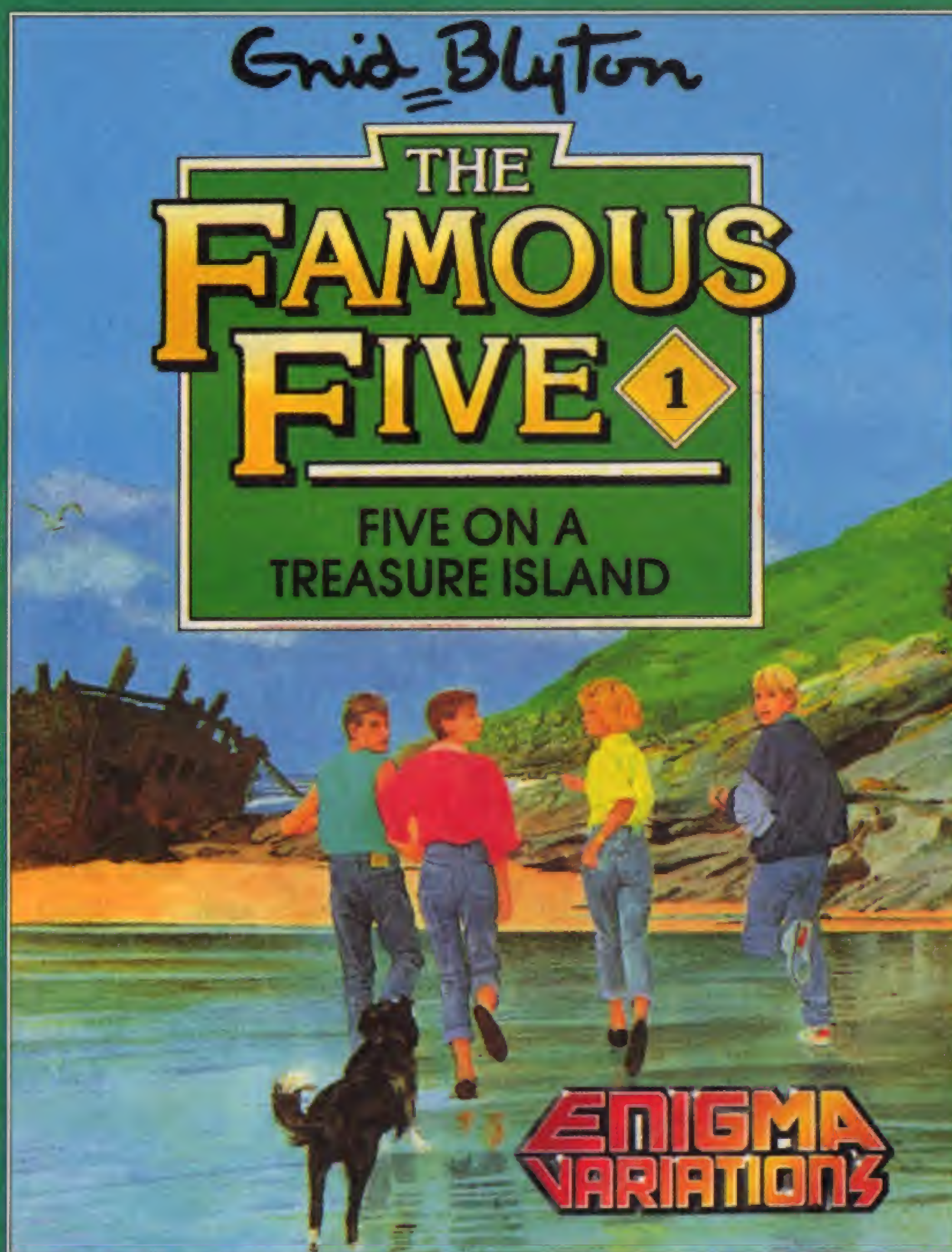
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